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SCOTTISH LETTER.
THE GENERAL ELECTION.
RETIRING M.P.'S.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

EDINBURGH, November 21st.
As was to be expected at the end of so short a Parliament, the number of members not seeking re-election is comparatively small. It would have been smaller still had not some Liberals agreed to withdraw in the interests of party reunion. Sir Wm. Raeburn, who meant to retire from Dumfriesshire a year ago, hopes to do so now, as he finds the strain of the House of Commons, in addition to his other public work, too much for him. Sir Wm. Mitchell Colles is giving up the Western Isles, which he won as a National Liberal a year ago, and it may be surmised that in addition to personal reasons considerations of party unity have had an influence. Mr. James Gardiner is not to seek re-election for West Perthshire, and Mr. Alexander Shaw announced a week ago his resignation from Kilmarnock. With those four exceptions, all the former members for Scotland are to seek a renewal of confidence. It seems as if some of the Highland constituencies will not be contested. All over there is a fear that another General Election may come in the comparatively near future, involving another great financial strain.

A DECEASED CANDIDATE.
One of the most interesting contests will take place in Kilmarnock and West Fife-shire, where the Duchess of Atholl, LL.D., D.B.E., has come forward as the Unionist candidate. She is a very energetic person, and proposes to address meetings on practically every night till the election in different parts of her widely spread constituency. In addition she will address many day meetings for women. Her Liberal opponent is Mr. P. A. Molteno, a son of the first Premier of Cape Colony, and the former M.P. for Dumfriesshire.

THE CLASH OF TWO ELECTIONS.
Scotland suffers under the inconvenience of having two elections going on at practically the same time—the Parliamentary election and the Local Vote poll. Many canvassers and local workers have to make a choice between two causes, and already the Trade and the Temperance party are complaining that the General Election has slackened the interest in their own particular struggle. As to speakers, no licence claims to have the advantage; its advocates are not so much thirled to party politics. The licensed interest, on the other hand, say they will suffer from the absence of some of their cleverest supporters. Another trouble is the lack of hall accommodation, but in this matter the tea-totalers boast that in many cases they can fall back upon the churches. Take only two examples of the way in which the elections will clash:—the Parliamentary poll is on the 28th December, and the Local Vote poll in Edinburgh falls upon the 1st December, and in Glasgow on the 4th December.

A PAINT VOICE FOR HOME RULE.
It does not look as if Home Rule for Scotland is to be a plank in any political platform during the present Parliamentary contest. The voice of the Scots National League, which is being faintly heard calling for independence, has been raised, but it is like a voice in the wilderness.

THE NAVY PORT.
Mr. Patrick MacGill, who delivered his new lecture "Among the Vikings" at Edinburgh, last week, no longer looks a navy. In evening dress, with a poetic bunch of hair, and thin face, he looks as like a modern, willowy, dreamy bard as W. B. Yeats. The "Vikings" he dealt with are the modern ones. Mr. MacGill's dialect is very pronounced. But for the way he says "any" and "Ireland" one might mistake him for a Hebridean. His style is leisurely and he never indulges in oratorical flights or "purple patches." His humour is of the homely order, and, as one of his lady admirers put it, he has a "pretty smile."

JOE H. AND L. G.
One of Mr. Lloyd George's warmest admirers is Joe Beckett. Joe has been telling me that he thinks L. G. a really great man, and that he has admired him for a long time. One of Joe's ambitions is to be introduced to his hero. Joe is a Free Trader. But I wonder would it not have been a good thing for him had there been a tax on certain foreign imports—Carpenters for instance.

SCOTTISH SHRINE AT JERUSALEM.
A scheme has been promoted by a joint committee of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church for the establishment of a Scottish Church and College at Jerusalem, which is being widely supported. It is intended to serve as a memorial to the men from Scotland who fell in the Palestine campaign, and to provide a centre where divinely students who have completed their courses in Scotland may continue their studies in the Holy Land.

THE QUEST FOR THE LIGHTER BALL.
The most interesting paragraph in the communication made us to what transpired at the meeting of the Golf Championship Committee was the announcement that the United States Golf Association were moving in the direction of a lighter ball. Also it was just a little surprising, for America was always opposed to any considerable movement in the direction of a lighter ball. But now the governing body in America have entered into the search for the ideal ball—the ball which will redress the balance of the game, which in the view of golf legislators has been upset by the ingenuities of the factory. The view is that the far-travelling ball of to-day has lengthened driving to the exclusion of skill and interesting strokes up to the green. The present statute of limitation specifies a minimum diameter of 1.62 inch, and a maximum weight of 1.63 ounce, and the American experiment—the first it may be

of several—is to reduce the maximum weight to 1.59 ounce, and leave the size minimum as it is. Such a measure, if it were enacted, would mean that the heaviest ball permissible would be a fraction under 28 pennyweights, which is a substantial difference from the "31" which was prevalent until a season or two ago. The heaviest ball under the present rule is about 29½ pennyweights. How far the reduction in the American experimental ball will affect driving is a matter "what waits proof, but expert opinion has estimated the curtailment of a good drive at about twenty yards against the wind, and less, of course, down the wind, and in the same conditions, more control of the ball will be essential. The communication from the United States makes it quite clear that the experiment referred to is only the first stage of the investigations, and however these may end there is every probability that the common policy of the two ruling authorities now existing with regard to ball restriction will be followed in future developments. America is more and more falling into line with our rules, and with the "merger" which is contemplated by the organisations there that movement should be facilitated.

SMOOTHING MARKS IN A BUNKER.

It is important to get an official decision, that smoothing over your marks with your club in a bunker which you have not cleared is not an infringement of the rules unless you have improved the lie of the ball. An impression to that effect had been generally entertained within the last year or so, but one had never seen an official decision on the subject. Some time ago a decision was given, but in that case the marks were smoothed over with the player's foot, which did not quite touch the point. The historic incident in this connection was, of course, that in the semi-final of the Amateur Championship at Muirfield, where Cyril Tolley claimed and was awarded a hole from G. L. Mellin for what was understood at the time to be an infringement of the rules.

Then only players with a national handicap of four or better will now be eligible to compete in the Amateur Championship, and only amateurs with a national handicap of two or better in the Open. Hitherto there has been no restriction on amateurs entering for the Open. The difficulty of qualifying has been a sufficient deterrent to the too ambitious golfer, and there has never been any disposition on the part of other than front-rank amateurs to cumber the field with their unnecessary presence. The alteration of the qualifying figure for the amateur event is an indication how easy it is without inequity, when you have standardised handicapping, to restrict the field to whatever numbers you desire, and to base your classification on something more stable than the "marker in a player's club."

THE SCOTS HECKLER.

Heckling was born and bred in Scotland. It is part of our heritage. The customs is occasionally found South of the Tweed, but there is no heckler so pertinacious as the Scot. Unfortunately we have had of late too many apologetic finishes to election meetings. Chairmen have been unnecessarily eager to announce—"Time is getting on, gentlemen, and I'm afraid we cannot expect the candidate to answer any more questions this evening." We cannot altogether blame the chairmen. Not after having heard some of the candidates. But none the less, there is a growing feeling that the heckler is not given the encouragement that is his due. The rule that all questions must be written and handed up to the platform is a dodge to tick the real heckler. There is nothing to equal the experience of seeing a politician having to take what comes to him in an oral examination. Candidates may not want more of that sort of thing, but we do. We in Scotland have our reputation to retain. We are born hecklers first and last. Our appetite for information is insatiable. The suppression of the Good Old Heckler is being encouraged by certain audiences. We should have less of that. The sporting spirit should be given free play. Otherwise, as a man of hecklers, we shall crumple our style. If there is one thing we must have it is heckling. Why not Hecklers' Meetings? All heckling and no long speeches. If and when such a meeting is held, it will draw the crowd of the season. And there will be no need for a platform party, nor indeed for a platform. We shall want a twelve-foot ring conforming to the rules laid down by the Marquis of Queensberry.

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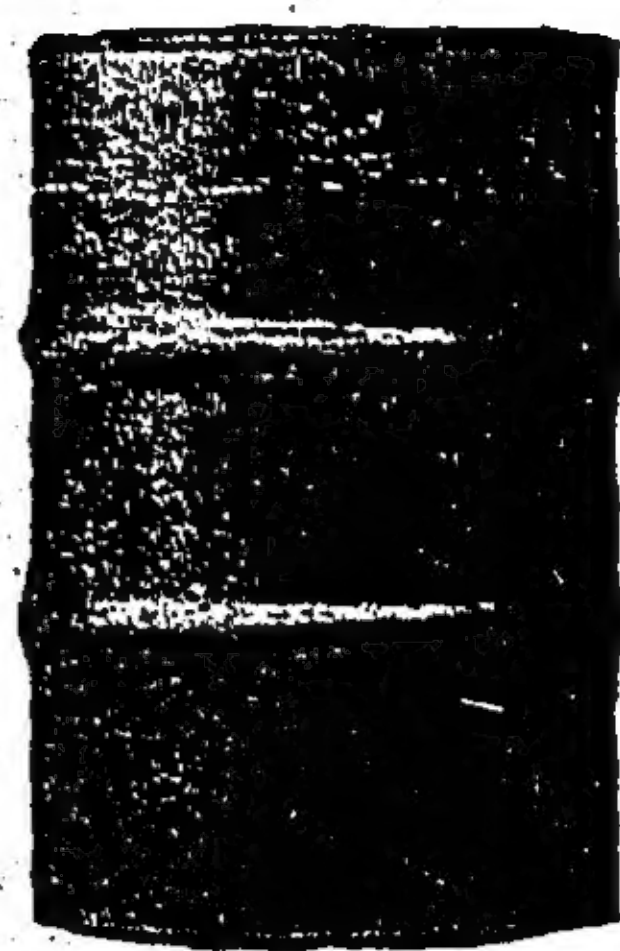
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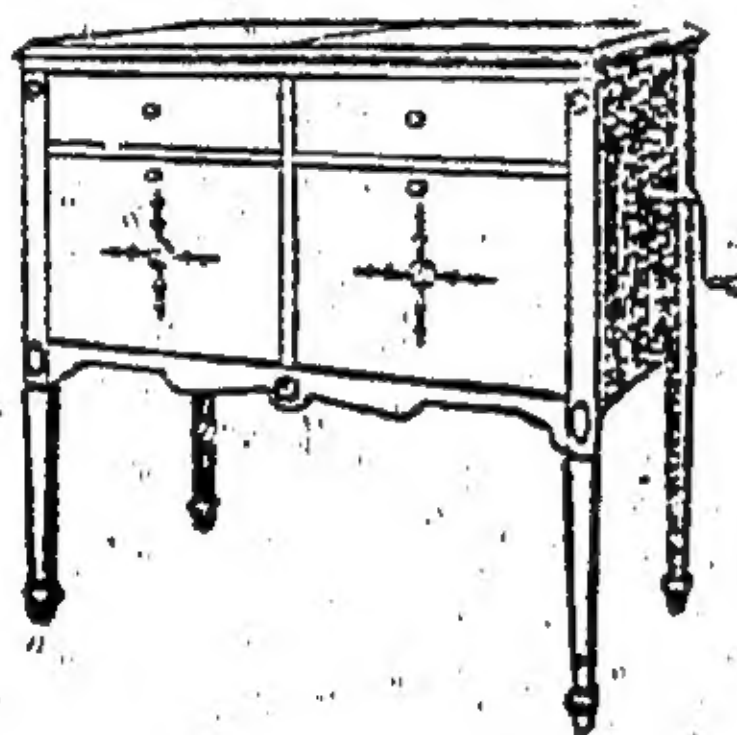
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"FEROCIOUS" VEGETARIANS.

MR. SHAW AND DIET.

"The subject of diet is a very interesting
one, but no one understands it," declared
Mr. George Bernard Shaw, at a meeting
of the University of London Vegetarian
Society on November 14th. It was not to
be supposed, said the speaker, that a vege-
tarian ate only vegetables; he himself did
not eat any more vegetables than the aver-
age person. Certain vegetarians had stat-
ed that they were not subject to decay of
teeth or to cancer, but that was a lie. It
was easy to find healthy races, some of
whom, like the Chilian miners, lived en-
tirely on beans, and others like the Tar-
tars, who ate 9lb. of meat a day. Both
these people were healthy, and it was
difficult to choose between them.
Some people imagined they would die
if they did not eat a lot. "I know a
lady," Mr. Shaw declared, "who has
seven meals a day, and who believes she
could not last out the day without them."
Many people, he continued, had the idea
that vegetarians were effeminate and
gentle, but they were the most ferocious
people in the country. (Laughter.)
We must find out how to feed ourselves
really scientifically. He looked forward
to the time when people would complete
the digestion of their food in their bodies.
The present habits of eating were dirty
habits, but the habits of the vegetarians
were slightly less dirty than the habits of
the meat-eater.

HONGKONG WEEKLY SHARE REPORT

Messrs. Benjamin & Potts in their
weekly share report, dated January 4th,
say:—

The period under review has shown more
activity in the local market notwithstanding
the interruption caused by the New
Year holidays, and a fair volume of busi-
ness has been transacted. Prices for the
most part have kept steady, but the fea-
ture of the week has been the strong
demand for China Providents. China
Lights, Green Island Cements, Hongkong
Kowloon Wharves, Hongkong Whampoa
Docks and Hongkong Ropes, all of which
have advanced appreciably.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks
have shown very little variation, and only
a small business has been done at \$1.05 1/2
to \$1.05 1/4. The latest cable quotation
from Home is \$1.05 (Middle).

Marine and Fire Insurance.—Cautions
have been placed at \$725 and continue in
request. Hongkong Fire has spurred to
\$550. Unions are wanted at \$232. North
China at \$130 and China Fire at \$140
have remained steady.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and
Macao Steamboats have been placed at
\$47 1/2 to \$47 1/4. Star Ferries have lapsed to
a nominal quotation of \$63 1/2. Douglas
Steamships at \$57 continue neglected.

Refineries.—China Sugars were negoti-
ated at \$250 1/2, but close rather quieter.
Malabons at \$33 have not moved.

Oils and Mining.—Shell Transports
have been done at 77 1/2 and there are more
enquiries at this rate. Langkats are in
demand at \$15. 35 and Tronchs at 30 1/2.
Kailans at \$4.60, Ural Caspians at 12 1/2
and Bouquets at P.H. are unaltered from
last week.

Electric Companies.—Hongkong Trams
are the turn higher at \$24 1/2. Hongkong
Electricity have been taken off the market
at the improved price of \$31.50 and close
with buyers at \$32 1/2. China Lights have
been ruling strong and sales have been
made up to \$16 1/2. It is proposed to in-
crease the capital of this Company from
\$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 by the issue of
900,000 additional shares of the nominal
value of \$3 each, to be offered to share-
holders.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hong-
kong and Whampoa Docks have crept up
to a buying quotation of \$156 1/2. Shang-
hai Docks have hardened and could be
placed at \$160. Hongkong and Kow-
loon Wharves have advanced \$13 1/2.
Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hong-
kong Lands are a shade firmer and have
been placed at \$60. Hongkong and
Shanghai Hotels have changed hands at
\$25 and continue in demand. Prince's
Buildings are asked for at \$150. Ham-
phrys Estates have lapsed to a nominal
quotation of \$21.60.

Cotton Mills.—Transactions have been
effected in Ewos at \$11 1/2. Shanghai
Cottons at \$10 and Orientals at \$11
5.20 are unaltered from last week.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have
been dealt in to a fair extent at gradually
improving prices up to \$32 and the market
closes strong, with an unsatisfied demand.
Dairy Farms have come to business at
\$23 1/2. Green Island Cements have also
been a very firm market and the price
has rapidly advanced to \$23 1/2, with large
sales at intermediate rates. Hongkong
Ropes have stiffened and are saleable at
\$55. Watson's have been booked at \$23 1/2.
Lane, Crawfords at \$10.60, and Construc-
tions at \$6 1/2. There are enquiries for
Peak Trams at \$14 1/2. Union Waterboats
at \$17 and Wm. Powell at \$21.

Forward Settlements.—Days—January
20th (Tuesday), February 26th (Tuesday),
and March 25th (Tuesday), 1924.
Exchange.—The T.T. selling rate on
London today is 2/4 and on Shanghai
71.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

CLOSING QUOTATIONS

| JANUARY 4TH, 1924 | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Hongkong and Shanghai | |
| Banks | \$1.05 1/2 b. |
| Canton Insurance | \$725 b. & sa. |
| Union Insurance | \$233 b. |
| H.K. & C. M. Steamboats | \$47 1/2 b. |
| Kowloon Wharves | \$156 b. |
| Whampoa Docks | \$156 b. 156 sa. |
| Shanghai Docks | \$160 b. |
| Hongkong Lands | \$60 b. |
| Hongkong Hotels | \$25 b. |
| Ewo Cottons | \$11 1/2 b. |
| Cementa | \$23 1/2 b. |
| Hongkong Ropes | \$55 b. |
| China Providents | \$32 1/2 b. & sa. |
| Waterboats | \$17 b. |
| Watsons | \$23 1/2 b. & sa. |
| Hongkong Electric | \$31 1/2 b. |
| China Lights | \$16 1/2 b. |
| Hongkong Trams | \$24 1/2 b. |
| Peak Tramways | \$14 1/2 b. |
| b.—buyers; s.—sellers; sa.—sales. | |

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Lyon: Societe Generale pour Favoriser le
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trie en France.
New York: The Irving Bank—Columbia
Trust Company.
San Francisco: The Crocker National Bank
of San Francisco.

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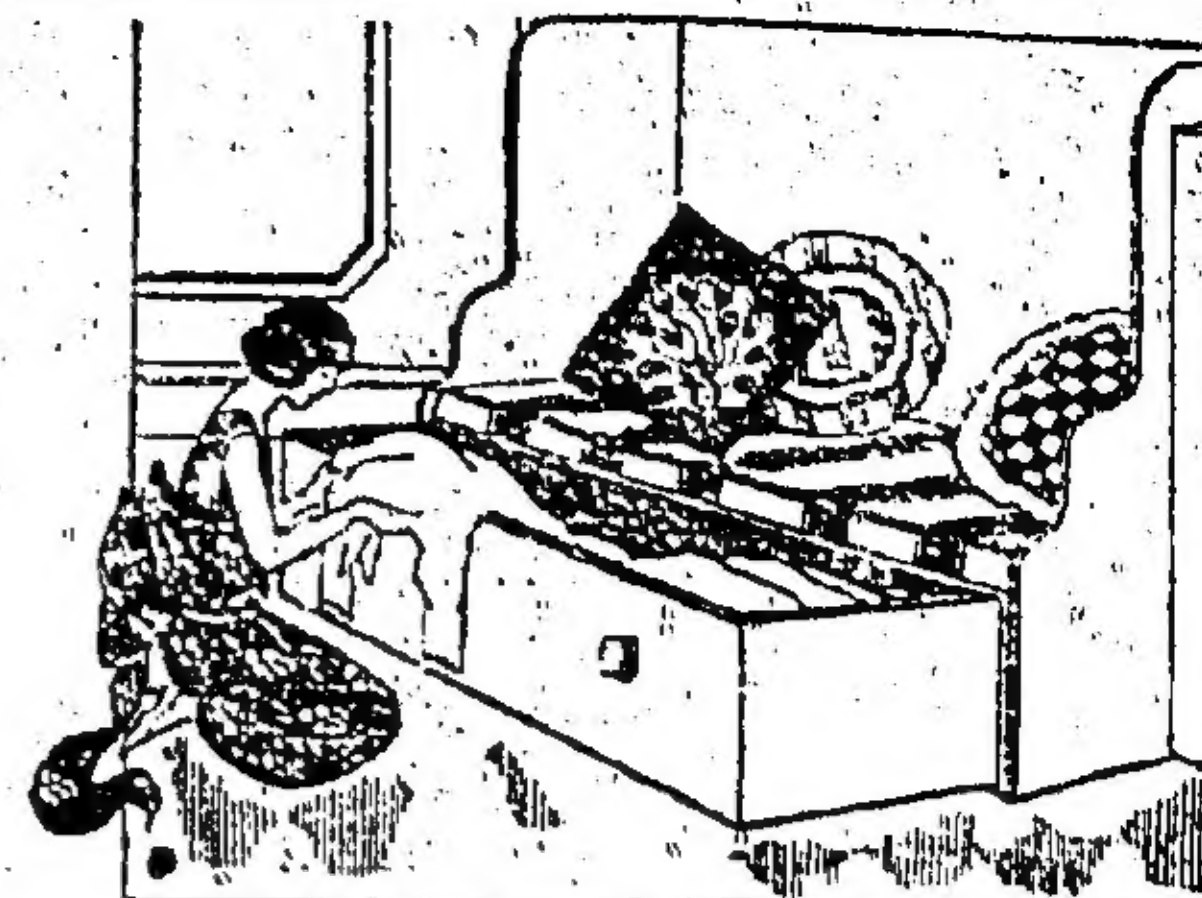
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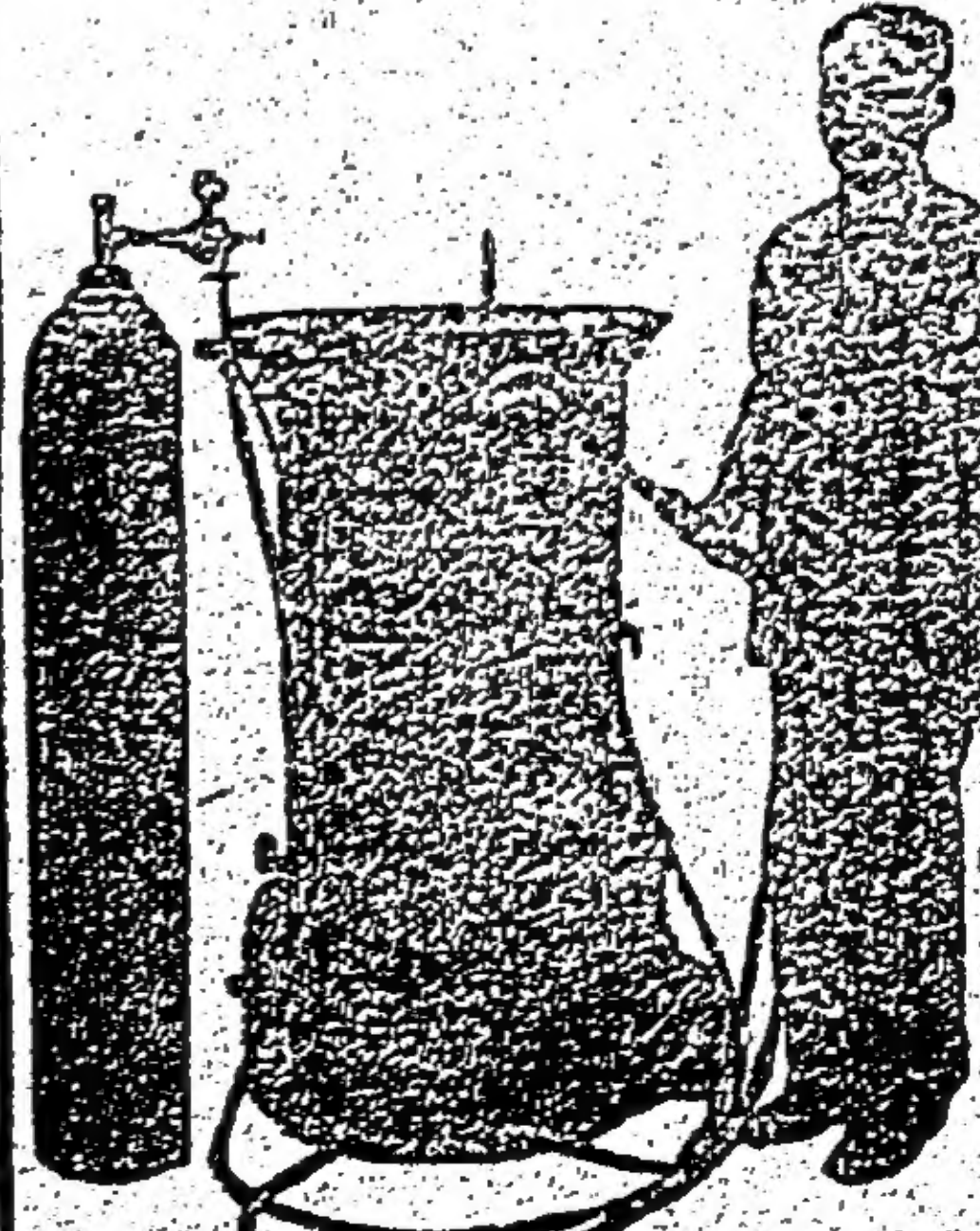
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CHINA'S BOYS BRIGADE.

WORK FOR THE STATE.

A familiar uniform that links up this country with the Far East welcomes the English visitor to the flourishing town of Swatow, in South China, where a branch of the Boy's Brigade has within a few years grown from a modest company of twenty Chinese lads to an organization numbering between six and seven hundred Swatow, with a population of about 80,000 inhabitants, is some 200 miles North of Hongkong, and when the Rev. A. Guthrie Gamble was sent there in 1913 for the English Presbyterian Mission, he had the happy thought of trying to form the young natives of the town into an organization on the same lines as the Boy's Brigade in England. Such an experiment had never been made before, and at first the Chinese authorities were a little sceptical and suspicious. Mr. Gamble, however, persevered, and soon had enlisted a company of lads who displayed great keenness in the work. Uniforms were procured from England, the young Orientals presenting a very smart appearance in their service tunics and little "pill-box" caps.

A level stretch of ground by the river side was procured for drilling, games, and athletic exercises, and there every afternoon in the week, except Sundays, when they have religious instruction, the boys have physical training. They have also been taught ambulance work, in preparation for the first aid examination of the British Red Cross Society, which many of them have passed. At the beginning of the year, when the original company had reached its number, the lads had an opportunity of winning their spurs in the terrible distress that followed the earthquake at Swatow in February of that year. At the request of the local Chinese authorities the Brigade undertook an expedition to the island of Namoo, about twenty miles distant, which had been the centre of the disturbance. The fishing villages on the island had been destroyed, and the casualty list was a heavy one. For over a week the boys, whose ages ranged between 12 and 17, attended to the sick and wounded, under the supervision of one of the medical men attached to the mission. They distributed food, and undertook various other forms of relief work, which proved of immense benefit to the stricken inhabitants. Both the public and the officials were surprised and delighted with the boys' discipline and usefulness, and from that moment the success of the movement was assured. The chief officials recognised the true aims and objects of the Brigade, and have since subscribed regularly to its funds.

A far heavier demand was made on the lads last year after the great typhoon that burst over Swatow on August 2nd, when the casualties were estimated at 20,000. The British authorities in Hongkong formed a relief fund of about £50,000, which they sent to the British Chamber of Commerce in Swatow for distribution, and the work was entrusted to the Brigade. The boys organised corps in the different villages throughout a coastal area of about forty miles, and paid over to the chairman of each village a proportionate sum for distribution, for which he had to give a receipt. So greatly was this work appreciated by the villagers that, before they received the large sum, on which they inscribed an account of the disaster, recording the generosity of the Hongkong authorities, and describing the administration of the fund by the Boy's Brigade.

Mr. Gamble is now in England on furlough, and while here is endeavouring to raise a sum of £5,000 for a building to house the headquarters of the Brigade headquarters are already being erected, and the work has had to be done in the open air. The original company has developed into seven companies, with three British officers, the rest being native officers who have been trained. "Our work has now grown to such an extent that central headquarters are absolutely necessary," said Mr. Gamble to a *Daily Telegraph* representative. "The central authorities of the Brigade have made a grant of £100, and a large number of boys' brigade companies are collecting; but our object can only be realised with the help of friends who are interested in the work, and think our achievements have justified the experiment. The training develops the boy's initiative, gives him *esprit de corps*, and, more than anything else, has brought the English public school spirit into the life of the Chinese boy." Mr. Gamble added that the Brigade is frequently receiving applications from the heads of commercial firms, who recognise that the boys who have undergone the training are of far higher value than the ordinary Chinese lad.

It is significant of the kindly feelings infused in the boys that they have volunteered to start a fund for the relief of the victims of the recent earthquake at Tokyo, and have raised a substantial sum by a shop-to-shop collection. "Considering the bitter animosity that exists between China and Japan," said Mr. Gamble, "this is a striking proof of the spirit of brotherhood that is instilled by the training." All who wish to help the good work are invited to send their subscriptions to the secretary of the Boy's Brigade, 34, Paternoster-row, E.C. 4, specifically marked for the Boy's Brigade in China.

CONTRABAND.

MAGISTRATE ORDERS CONFISCATION.

At the Magistrate's yesterday, an application came before Mr. J. R. Wood, for the confiscation, in default of a claim of ownership, of 1,000 ounces of morphine seized by Revenue Officers at the Kowloon godowns on December 20th contained in cases marked "Colours." The drug was passing through the Colony for Amoy when seized.

His Worship granted the application. A similar order in another case in which the confiscation of 3,250 ounces of heroin, estimated at a value of nearly two lakhs, was granted. This contraband was seized on January 2nd aboard the *Fuchimi Maru* in cases purporting to contain harmless drugs. The destination of the drug was Kobe.

PORTUGAL'S FINANCIAL STRAITS.

The new Cabinet met Parliament on November 10th, and the Prime Minister, Dr. Ginesal Machado, made his declaration of policy. The principal problem, he said, was the financial one. Instead of the 157,000 contos (about £1,300,000) at the present rate of exchange, nominally £33,325,000) announced in the last Budget, the deficit now exceeded 400,000 contos (about £3,300,000, nominally £90,000,000). The situation of the Treasury was alarming, much of the revenue due still remained to be collected, and some, including income tax, was uncollectable. The Government's first step would be to put the relations of the State with the Bank of Portugal upon a satisfactory basis. This would be followed by measures for a big reduction in expenditure and a general reform of the public services. The problem of roads and railways would be attacked immediately. Senhor Jose Domingos Santos, replying for the Democrats (who are understood to have promised benevolent support to the new Nationalist Government) said the declaration was disappointing. His attitude was not very conciliatory.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Newspapers of the Far East. Compiled and edited by ALLISTER MACMILLAN, F.R.G.S., and printed by W. H. and L. Collingridge, London.

"The purpose of the book," we are told in the preface, "is to convey by photographic reproductions as well as by descriptive letterpress, useful and interesting information regarding some of the principal newspapers of the Far East, more especially their commercial and industrial activities." The reports embraced in this volume are Hongkong, Shanghai, Singapore, Penang, Bangkok and Hongkong, and the declared purpose of the book is admirably fulfilled. Most interesting historical and descriptive accounts of the various parts are given, and an outstanding feature of the volume is the profusion of interesting photographic reproductions scattered throughout its pages. The book is exceedingly well printed on art paper. The Hongkong section is well done, but one or two typographical inaccuracies are noticeable, such as "Daguerre" for "D'Agular Street," and in two places the name of the *Hongkong Daily Press* is incorrectly printed. Another and larger edition of the volume is contemplated, and in this no doubt these trifling blemishes will be rectified. Mr. Macmillan and his printers are certainly entitled to the highest compliments on the general character of the production.

The Glory of the Pharaohs. By ARTHUR WEICMANN. (Thornton Butterworth, 12/6). The reader of this book is likely to be somewhat disappointed when he first opens it. The attractive picture of the human-headed lion on the paper wrapper seems in keeping with the title, but the frontispiece drops down to a very much lower level. Then, instead of the usual introduction there is the publisher's foreword, which will in all probability send the reader back to the title page to see if he has read it correctly. "The Glory of the Pharaohs." But even after he has removed his doubts and got rid of the publisher's foreword, he must not hope for a long time to learn anything at all about Pharaohs. The first fifty pages are a tedious reading. With Chapter III the author really gets to work, and the misfortune of Wenamon make a very interesting story. When it is finished, however, the misfortune of the reader begins again, and thirty pages of padding intervene before he reaches the interesting study of the temperament of the ancient Egyptians. But could the moralists and have had any practical experience of the ways of drunken men, since he supposed that they broke their limbs in falling!

With Chapter VII the reader may be said to enter really into the glory of the Pharaohs. The biographer of the life and times of Akhnaton knows how to write about one of the most interesting monarchs that the world has ever seen, in a manner that is bound to claim full attention. No other Egyptian makes so profound an appeal to the modern mind. Both his great attempt at a religious reformation and his hopeless failure illustrate the unavailability of the kindly office for the role of a prophet. The story of Akhnaton is followed by that of Horemheb the Pharaoh who was mainly responsible for bringing back order from the political chaos which resulted from the work of the re-former king.

The two chapters comprise the serious part of the book; the rest has practically nothing to do with the glory of the Pharaohs. But some of it is very delightful and amusing, and the two chapters entitled respectively "Children of Egypt" and "The Story of the Shipwrecked Sailor" make excellent reading for a spare ten minutes. Yet with very much that is good and entertaining one cannot help feeling that a book of half the matter, and half the price would have been more acceptable to the general public.

TRADE IN 1923.

RICE.

From an exporter's point of view, the period under review has been rather disappointing, as the demands from our principal outlets—such as the United States of America, South America and the West Indies—have been, on the whole, extremely poor, with the result that only a hand to mouth business materialized.

American and Cuban buyers are apparently still finding it to their advantage to place the bulk of their orders direct with Saigon shippers, in spite of the well known fact that exporters there do not exercise as much care as do exporters in Hongkong in checking the weights and grading the Rice. It is reasonable to assume, therefore, that they can buy Rice for shipment from Saigon at a much lower price than in Hongkong, in order to offset the disadvantages named above. Local prices have been well maintained as the following figures of the price of Saigon Long will show:—

| | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| In January | about \$5.40 per picul. |
| February | 6.60 |
| March | 6.70 |
| April | 6.60 |
| May | 6.55 |
| June | 6.30 |
| July | 6.30 |
| August | 6.50 |
| September | 7.50 |
| October | 7.00 |
| November | 7.15 |
| December | 7.00 |

It will be noticed that there was a sudden jump of about \$1 per picul in September. This advance was to some extent due to the Japanese catastrophe, but the main reason is probably to be found in the active demand from Canton and other nearby markets, in consequence of the extensive damage done to the native crops by typhoons and floods.

At the close of the year the market was still ruling fairly firm as the demand from the neighbouring districts had not been satisfied.

CROP PROSPECTS.—We have already had occasion to refer to the Native or South China Crops and the following information regarding the other sources of supply may also be of interest.

Saigon.—Notwithstanding serious floods, which practically destroyed the crop in two or three of the Western provinces of Cochinchina, it is confidently expected that there will be an exportable surplus of between 1,500,000 to 1,400,000 tons during the coming season. The New Crop Rice should be on the market towards the latter part of February.

Burma.—From reliable sources we learn that the New Siamese Crop will be a good average one and the surplus available for exportation is estimated at about 1,250,000 to 1,300,000 tons.

Bangka.—Floods have destroyed about 500,000 acres of planted Rice fields in Burma, and it has been reported that at least one half of this area could not be planted or rather re-planted in time for the New Season. This shortage, however, is not likely to make any very material difference to the country's supply, as much as the quantities available from Saigon and Bangkok put together.

From the above it will be seen that, unless the unforeseen should happen, we are assured of ample supplies in 1924.

Fluctuations in prices of Raw Sugars in the principal World Markets have again been in strong evidence during the year 1923. This is in part explained by heavy speculation taking place and uncertainty as to approximate World supply to fill the general demand. Consumption during the year 1923 was so great that there was very little carry over from both Cuba and Java (the two principal Cane Sugar producing centres). Supplies for 1923 were consequently almost wholly dependent on the incoming crops of that year.

In the belief that supplies would become scarce, speculators on both the American and Java Markets took a strong buying hand for forward positions during the early part of the year and prices rose to dangerously high levels.

Later it was announced that the U.S. Attorney General had applied for an injunction to restrict operations on the New York Terminal Sugar Exchange. Although this did not actually eventuate, the prospect of such happening had the effect of shaking off a lot of speculative operators and prices relapsed sharply.

Java Market followed suit and a big shake out there led to some failures, when the new sugars came in freely for delivery, about July to August, money becoming somewhat tight for the time being.

One forced sales became absorbed, the Market strengthened and gradual improvement in prices set in which was maintained to the end of the year.

The present level of prices gives a good margin of profit to producers. Before the end of 1923 the Java Sugar Trust sold over one million tons of the 1924 Crop which is estimated at about 1,700,000 tons.

How we give average prices each month for the year 1923 on the Hongkong Sugar Market:—

| | Superior Whites | Browns |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|
| January | \$10.85 | \$9.90 |
| February | 12.50 | 11.40 |
| March | 12.50 | 11.40 |
| April | 15.00 | 13.50 |
| May | 14.00 | 12.50 |
| June | 13.50 | 12.00 |
| July | 12.50 | 11.50 |
| August | 11.50 | 11.00 |
| September | 12.80 | 12.10 |
| October | 13.70 | 13.30 |
| November | 15.00 | 14.40 |
| December | 15.90 | 14.00 |

Full statistics of actual Sugar importations to China during 1923 are not yet available but the figures will probably be in the vicinity of 300,000 tons.

World's Supply of cane sugars for 1924 is estimated at 13,000,000 tons. World's supply of beet sugars for 1924 is estimated at 6,000,000 tons.

Grand total 19,000,000 tons. Increase production over 1923 about 1,000,000 tons.

INTIMATIONS.

NOTICE.

THE General Officer Commanding, China Command, brings to the Notice of All Concerned that No Soldier can be placed under Stoppages of Pay for a Private Debt. If therefore, Inhabitants suffer Soldiers to Contract Debts, they will do so at their Own Risk.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the CLUB will be held in the Board Room of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., on THURSDAY, the 10th January, 1924, at 5 P.M.

The purposes for which the Meeting is called are:—

(a) To confirm the following resolutions passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 12th December, 1923:

1. That the Rules of Racing by the Hongkong Jockey Club be amended by adding after Rule No. 11 the following: "The Annual Race Meeting 1924 a China Pony is a horse measuring 13 hands 3 inches and under."

2. That the said Rules of Racing be amended by striking out Rule No. 17 and substituting the following:—

17. The weight for China Ponies shall be 140 pounds for 12 hands and under, an additional 3 pounds for every complete inch above that height. Fractions of an inch to count in favour of the Pony. Any Pony measuring 14 hands (fractions of an inch to count in favour of the Pony) and under shall be eligible to compete at the Annual Race Meeting in 1924 in any race reserved for China Ponies. After the Annual Race Meeting 1924 any China Pony which measures over 13 hands 3 inches to be ineligible to compete in any race reserved for China Ponies (fractions of an inch over 13 hands 3 inches not to count).

18. After the Annual Race Meeting 1924 the Stewards may refuse to accept the entry of any Pony which in their opinion is not a China Pony. They may, at their discretion, appoint a Committee of Inspection. The Stewards' decision shall be final.

3. That Rule No. 31 of the Rules and Regulations of the Hongkong Jockey Club be amended to read:—

31. The Stewards have power to draw up and settle the programme and fix the date or dates for any Race Meeting.

4. That Rule No. 73 of the Rules of Racing made by the Hongkong Jockey Club be unchanged.

(b) To propose a resolution adopting the revised Rules and Regulations of the Club as circulated to the Members in which the following new provisions have been made:—

1. For the division of the Members of the Club into Voting and Non-Voting or Ordinary Members.

2. For the increase of the Entrance Fee to the Club.

3. For the appointment of a Secretary.

4. For the alteration of the date upon which subscriptions are payable and other minor alterations.

By Order,
C. E. BROWN,
Secretary.

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"ST. GEORGE FOR MERRIE ENGLAND."

LAST NIGHT'S BALL AT THE CITY HALL.

Undoubtedly St. George's Ball which took place last night was a marked success, more so even than in previous years. The guests were more numerous (some 1,100 to 1,200 being present). The decorations and lighting effects were both novel and effective; the arrangements for the comfort and convenience of guests were excellent and the dance music inspiring. About the main entrance to the hall (skillfully fashioned to resemble the entrance to an old English castle of the Tudor period) the battle cry of our English ancestors, "St. George for Merrie England" was depicted in a blaze of shimmering electric light. Inside the castle gates befeaters in their striking uniform waited on the guests and guided them to the cloak-rooms. Two cloak-rooms were situated at the entrance, two at the foot of the main stair case and two at the top. The balustrades were lined with alternating red and white lights and on either side of the stairway and grouped around the pillars was a profusion of pot plants. At the top of the stairs was a magnificent representation of the Shield of St. George, gracefully draped with the flags bearing the red cross of St. George. The surface of the shield was one mass of white lights, the cross being depicted by red lights, with dazzling effect.

The rooms on the first floor of the City Hall were given over to dancing, whilst the Theatre Royal was used as a supper-room. At the top of the main staircase, on the left hand side, was a specially prepared entrance to the President's banquet hall on the Theatre Royal stage. The decorations are to be complimented on their skilful design. The passage way, usually dark and dismal, was transformed into a pergola of roses, suggesting the entrance to an old English rose garden. The sides of the passage had been covered with green trellis work intertwined with rose sprigs in full blossom. The stage where the President of the Society dined with a number of distinguished guests, was simply but effectively decorated. The horse-shoe shaped table, at which the official guests sat, practically occupied the whole of the stage and had a background of black and gold drapings through which an English garden scene could be viewed. A feature of the official supper table was a beautiful display of roses provided from the gardens of Mr. H. A. Nicholson. In the "stalls" section of the theatre large round tables, each capable of seating six guests, were arranged. The dress circle balcony and its supporting pillars were resplendent in red and white bunting—the colours of the Society, whilst over the arches were suspended the flags of the important nations of the world.

In the dance halls the general scheme of decoration showed up the colours of St. George to great advantage. The walls were adorned with a number of English town crests, and players representing the Tudor time linked by loops of red and white bunting. Huge orange-shaded electric lights suspended from the ceiling shed a soft light on to the dancers. In both St. Andrew's and St. George's Halls an additional agreeable lighting effect was obtained by the lights round the ceiling walls being covered by artificial red and white roses. In St. Andrew's Hall a large representation of St. George (excellently drawn by Lieut. Col. L. G. Bird) was hung and draped with the Patron Saint's colours. Whilst in St. George's Hall the portrait of the late Queen Victoria was similarly draped. On the Governor's dais immediately below the portrait, were placed settees and easy-chairs in red and white covers. Whilst over the entrance from St. Andrew's Hall to St. George's the crest of the City of London was set.

Downstairs two refreshment bars were arranged to represent vines, their respective names being "Ye Rose and Crown" and "The Dun Cow." A decorative feature of the "Dun Cow" was a representation of St. George slaying a dragon which was breathing lurid flames marked "prohibition," "anti-smoking" and "anti-gambling." It was an excellent drawing.

The card-room this year was in the hands of skilful decorators. Covering the ceiling was a huge St. George's cross whilst the supporting pillars were draped in red and white. The surrounding walls were completely covered with flags and a profusion of palms made the "den" a very attractive resort.

Dance music was played by the Band of the Hongkong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., whilst the Band of the East Surrey Regt. was also in attendance. The floors were perfect for dancing, the only fault being that they were not spacious enough for the dancers. The dance opened with the Lancers and the official set was composed of The President (Mr. D. G. M. Bernard), Mr. and Mrs. H. R. B. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. R. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Pollock, Admiral and Lady Leveon, General and Lady Fowler, Lady Lees-Davies, Sir Claude Severn, Commodore and Mrs. Grace and Mrs. Gompertz.

Likewise the ceremony of conveying the hour's head to the supper table on a huge platter by the chef was carried through (without accident this year) with much ceremony. The chief was escorted by six befeaters and the hour's head was placed on a small table in front of the stage.

THE OFFICIAL SUPPER PARTY.
The President's supper party was as follows:—

Mr. D. G. M. Bernard (President) and Lady Stubbs, H.E. the Governor and Mrs. H. R. B. Hancock, H.E. Senior J. Batalha de Freitas and Lady Leveon, H.E. the Commander-in-Chief, H.E. the General, Madame de Freitas, H.E. the Bishop of Victoria and Mrs. Grace, Mr. H. R. B. Hancock (Acting Vice-President) and Lady Chater, Commodore H. E. Grace and Mrs. Pollock, the Hon. Sir Claude Severn and Mrs. Stephen, the Hon. Sir Paul Chater and Lady Brunyate, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock and Mrs. Gompertz, the Hon. Mr. A. G. Stephen and Mrs. Holyoak, Sir William Brunyate and Mrs. Bird, H.H. Mr. Justice Gompertz and Mrs. Sutherland, the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak and Mrs. Alabaster, Mr. G. T. M. Edkins and Mrs. Hignall, Dr. Montagu Harston and Mrs. Dickens, Mr. R. Sutherland and Mrs. Orpen Sanders, Lieut. Col. L. G. Bird and Mrs. Butterworth, Mr. C. G. Alabaster and Mrs. Harston, Mr. W. A. Dowley and Mrs. Airey, Mr. R. J. Wilton and Mrs. Cock, Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin and Mrs. Grayburn, Mr. E. Cock and Mrs. Cassidy, Mr. V. M. Grayburn and Mrs. Beavis, Mr. P. S. Cassidy and Mrs. Wilton.

THE PRESIDENT'S TOAST.

The President (Mr. D. G. M. Bernard) at the conclusion of the principal supper session said:—I wish first of all to express our hearty thanks to the gentlemen composing the Committees who have had charge of the arrangements for this Ball. It has taken up a lot of their valuable time, but I hope the great success of the evening will recompense them in some measure for the hard work they have put in. The duties of Secretary are specially arduous, and for that reason, perhaps, I may be permitted to mention the name of Mr. Hollands as one particularly deserving of recognition. To Mr. R. A. Nicholson we are indebted for the fine display of roses, the flower which has from the earliest times been dedicated to St. George.

The Royal Society of St. George was founded in the year 1894 principally to encourage and strengthen the spirit of patriotism amongst all classes of Englishmen, and to revive the recognition and celebration in every part of the world of our English national festival on St. George's Day—April the 23rd. In Hongkong, owing to climatic conditions, it has been thought more fitting to celebrate it early in January instead of in April, and the support given to the Ball this year and in years past has been very gratifying and encouraging to the local Branch of the Society.

Of the early life of St. George, the Patron saint of England, little is known. It seems to be established, however, that he was born at Lydda in Palestine of noble Greek parents who were Christians, and he became a distinguished soldier, a man of great courage and a great favourite of the Roman Emperor Diocletian, but on complaining to him of the severities towards Christians and boldly testifying to his faith before him, he was put to death on April 23rd in the year 303 at Nicomedia. It was his death that gave rise to the fable of St. George and the Dragon, its real and obvious significance being the coming triumph of Christianity over Paganism. Few saints receive such universal recognition as St. George, and it is curious that in Palestine both Christians and Mohammedans even to-day make vows to him in case of danger or great distress.

It is believed that St. George paid a visit to England, and that it was through him that the Empress Helena was converted to Christianity, and through her, her son Constantine, whereby the course of the whole Roman world in matters of religion was changed, and Christianity began to take the place of Paganism.

In Saxon times his memory was held in high esteem, and in the reign of King Edward III—the King who instituted the Order of the Garter, the blue ribbon of chivalry, and dedicated it to St. George—he became the recognised "Patron of the Realm of England."

It was under the Banner of St. George that the great battles of Cressy, Agincourt and Sluys were fought and won, and later, the Armada defeated, and in the present day it is the same old flag of England that leads our fleets into action.

The following story concerning the First British Expeditionary Force during the Great War was recently told by Earl Haig. It included Scotch and Irish, and although the history and traditions of the countries are different it is the same spirit which animates us all. My reason for repeating it this evening is that the personnel of the Force consisted for the most part of Englishmen. An Officer visited Von Kluck in Berlin after the War, and as customary with the Officers of the Allied Armies of Occupation, the British Officer held out his hand. Von Kluck said: "Not before I have fulfilled a vow I made before the end of the War. It was that before I would shake hands with any British Officer again I would say this to him: 'I am an old man. I started life in '68 against the Austrians, I fought in the '70 war, and have studied and talked about war all my life, holding high command before the war, but nothing I have ever read or seen or heard is comparable to the achievements of the First Expeditionary Force sent out to help the French.'"

Now, the spirit of patriotism which I have said it is the object of the Society to encourage and strengthen, is more than a sentiment, and the term is employed to include "a conviction based upon a comprehension of the duties of a citizen, and a determination loyally to perform such duties. Patriotism is love of country, born of familiarity with its history, reverence for its institutions, and faith in its possibilities, and is evidenced by obedience to its laws and respect for its flag." We have indeed a great heritage of which we are justly proud, and it behooves us to keep fresh in memory our traditions, the times of trial and triumph, and resolve that no matter what has been accomplished in the past, we will achieve greater things in the future.

The toast was drunk standing.

THE DANCES.

The dance programme was as follows:—
Extra-Fox Trot "Suez"
Extra-Fox Trot "Tell her at Twilight"
1.—Lancers "The Savor"
2.—Waltz "A kiss in the Dark"
3.—Fox Trot "Anna Bella"
4.—Fox Trot "Running Wild"
5.—Waltz "Sleep"
6.—Fox Trot "Marcheta"
7.—One Step
8.—Fox Trot "Out where the blue begins"
9.—Fox Trot "Hollywood"
10.—Fox Trot "Barny Goo Goo"
11.—Waltz "Bambalina"
12.—Waltz "Just a girl every man forgets"
13.—Fox Trot "Wild Flower"
14.—Fox Trot "Saw Mill River Road"
15.—Waltz "Second Supper"
16.—One Step "Cut yourself a piece of Cake"
17.—Fox Trot "Down on the Farm"
18.—Waltz "Nelly Kelly"
19.—Fox Trot "Chansonnette"
20.—Waltz "Thru the Night"
21.—Fox Trot "Last Night in the Back Porch"
22.—Fox Trot "Lone Tales."

THE REPERT.

The supper menu was an excellent one, quite beyond reproach. It was:—
1. Oxtail Soup
2. Beef Tea
3. Cold Fish, Mayonnaise Sauce
4. Roast Turkey
5. Roast Game
6. Roast Capon
7. Saddle of Lamb
8. BOAR'S HEAD
9. Roast Sirloin of Beef
10. Game Pie
11. York Ham
12. Corned Ox Tongue
13. Spiced Beef
14. Chicken Mayonnaise
15. Potatoes
16. Green Peas
17. Maceoine of Fruit
18. Stewed Fruit and Custard
19. Ice Merquise
20. Ice Cream
21. French Pastry
22. Coffee

A delightful programme of music was discoursed during the supper by the Band of the East Surrey Regiment.

THE OFFICIALS.

The following were the committees responsible for the excellent arrangements:—

Invitation and Reception Committee:—
Mr. D. G. M. Bernard (Chairman), Mr. H. W. Bird (Vice-Chairman), Sir Claude Severn, C.M.G., LL.D., Hon. Mr. Justice Gompertz, Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. C. T. M. Edkins, Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Dr. G. Montagu Harston, Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Commander C. W. Beckwith, R.N., Mr. P. A. Cox, Mr. C. Montague Edie, Lieut. Col. W. Nicholson, C.M.G., D.S.O., Mr. H. R. B. Hancock, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C., Mr. G. H. Piercy (Hon. Secretary) and Mr. H. E. Hollands (Ball Secretary).

Decorations Committee:—
Lieut. Col. L. G. Bird (Chairman), Mr. W. A. Dowley, Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin, Mr. H. T. Creasy, Messrs. Thos. Grimshaw, Edward Cock, I. D. Martyn, G. H. M. Bannerman and V. Sorby.

Music and Dancing Committee:—
Messrs. W. A. Dowley (Chairman), H. B. L. Dowbiggin, G. Grimble, T. E. M. Bevan, J. H. Donithorne, S. F. Chubb, A. H. K. Cobb, H. Hancock, G. Henderson, Balmer Johnson and H. Day.

Cloak Room Committee:—
Messrs. E. Cock (Chairman), G. Henderson, Dr. G. Montagu Harston, Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Mr. C. W. Beckwith, Mr. P. A. Cox, Mr. C. Montague Edie, Lieut. Col. W. Nicholson, C.M.G., D.S.O., Mr. H. R. B. Hancock, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C., Mr. G. H. Piercy (Hon. Secretary) and Mr. H. E. Hollands (Ball Secretary).

Wines and Supper Committee:—
Messrs. R. J. Wilton (Chairman), T. E. Pearce, M. E. F. Airey, A. Piercy, A. E. Exell, P. S. Cassidy, D. L. Ralph, Walker, G. G. Wood, A. Nicholson, W. J. Eldridge, S. Baker, W. J. Hill, V. C. Labrum and W. W. Brackenridge.

CHINA THE BEST MARKET FOR MOTORS.

MR. HENRY FORD'S PLANS.

New York, November 20th.
According to an interview with Mr. Henry Ford, published to-day, the Ford Motor Company is constructing, at a cost of \$10,000,000 (\$22,000,000), new plants and extensions, which will increase the output within four months to 10,000 motor-cars and lorries a day.

Mr. Ford said that his company was expanding all over the United States because no such thing as the saturation point existed. Aircraft development would follow soon, but would never displace motor-cars.

Mr. Ford said that the Manchester plant was now making 84 per cent. of all the parts going into Ford cars and lorries in England, and would soon make 90 per cent. The company was selling 40,000 to 50,000 cars a year in England, and the number seemed likely to increase. The best future market, he said, was China. Motor-cars would develop China quicker than railways or missionaries.

SPORT.

FOOTBALL.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

INTERPORT TRIAL.
Hongkong Club ground, at 4 p.m.
Referee: Mr. Smith.
HONGKONG LEAGUE.

Division I.
Kick-off, 2 p.m.
South China v. H.M.S. Hawkins, Hongkong Club ground. Referee: Mr. Wakeman.

Division II.
Kick-off, 2.30 p.m.
Sacred Heart v. H.M.S. Marston, Soekupoo "A" ground. Referee: Mr. Collins.
University of Hongkong Club Reserves v. Navy "A" ground. Referee: Mr. Greer.
South China "A" v. Filipino Club, South China ground. Referee: Mr. Tokey.
H.M.S. Iriquoise v. South China "B", Soekupoo "B" ground. Referee: Mr. Ford.
Club de Recreo v. Titania, St. Joseph's ground. Referee: Mr. Spencer.
Surrey Regt. Reserves v. Diamond Reserves, Navy "B" ground. Referee: Mr. Blumson.
Kowloon Reserves v. Holyhook, Kowloon F.C. ground. Referee: Mr. Bailey.

KOWLOON RES. v. "HOLYHOOK."

The following team will represent the Kowloon Reserves in their 2nd division League match v. the Holyhook on the Kowloon ground to-day (kick-off, 2.30 p.m.):—B. Rasmussen; F. Ollier and D. Urquhart; A. W. Brown, S. Sibley and S. Randell; V. Hart, B. Vickers, W. H. Brown, A. Spary and B. Haylock. Reserve: L. H. Taylor and S. W. Chapman.

CRICKET.

MARRIED v. SINGLE.

The following teams will represent Married and Single on the H.R.C.C. ground to-day at 2 p.m. The teams will begin at 1 p.m. sharp so that an early start can be made:—

MARRIED.—H. R. B. Hancock (capt.), H. Hancock, T. E. Pearce, Colonel T. A. Robertson, G. R. Sawyer, E. B. Reed, E. J. R. Mitchell, H. E. Hollands, E. C. Hagan, H. Griffin and D. E. Donnelly.
SINGLE.—R. E. A. Webster (capt.), H. Owen Hughes, G. R. More, L. G. Lammer, D. W. Leach, E. C. England, A. W. T. Denn, G. H. Piercy, D. H. E. McMaster, G. R. Baron and C. V. Mark.

K.C.C. 2nd XI. v. I.R.C. 2nd XI.

The following will represent the I.R.C. 2nd XI. in a League match against the K.C.C. 2nd XI. on the latter's ground to-day at 2.15 p.m.:—D. Rumjahn, Sirdar Khan, F. M. de Arcull, A. H. M. Samy, O. Rumjahn, H. D. Rumjahn, M. P. Madar, Y. A. Wahab, A. Kitchell, R. Narasin and S. A. Hamid.

GOLF.

NEW YEAR COMPETITIONS.

Following are the results of the New Year Golf competitions at Fanling:—
Mixed Foursome.—Won by Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Stark, 5 down.
Bogey Pool.—Won by Mr. F. S. Harrison, 2 up.

YACHTING.

INTERESTING SAILING MATCH ON SUNDAY.

ST. GEORGE'S v. ST. ANDREW'S.

An interesting sailing match is to be sailed off on Sunday between teams of five each selected from members of St. George's Society and St. Andrew's Society. The race is being sailed under the auspices of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club and ten yachts belonging to members of the Club are to be used. Eight of these will be drawn from the Heyward Hayes class and two from the Gael class. There are to be two events, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. For the afternoon race there will be a complete transfer of yachts; that is to say the members of St. George's are to use the boats sailed by the St. Andrew's team in the morning and vice versa.

The morning race is to start at 11 a.m. and the course will be: Start, Yacht Club, Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rocks, mark boat Club line, mark boat Kowloon Deck Point, Club Rock Buoy and finish at the Club House.

During the interval,iffin will be served at the Club house. The afternoon race commences at 3 p.m. The course for this race is: Start, Club house, Channel Rocks, Cust Rock, Club Line mark boat, Channel Rocks finishing at the Club house.

St. George's Society will be represented by: Commodore Grace, Messrs. Cock, House, Pearce and Adams.

St. Andrew's Society will be represented by Messrs. D. K. Blair, R. Sutherland, A. L. Shields, M. Henderson and Capt. Arthur.

In the afternoon whilst the race is in progress a bowls match between representatives of the two societies is to be played. The teams will be: St. George's.—Messrs. Edwards, Guy, Pelley, Thornhill, the Hon. Mr. McI. Messer, the Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe, Messrs. F. Smyth and E. W. Carpenter.

St. Andrew's.—Messrs. Adamson, Russell, Wylie, Williamson, Sellars, Keith, Paton and Greig.

At the conclusion of the racing the winning Society will be presented with a flag from the losing Society, whilst the winning team of bowlers will be presented with spoons.

It is hoped to make the event an annual one.

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CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.

[REUTERS' AMERICAN SERVICE.]

WAGES ON BRITISH RAILWAYS.

LOCOMOTIVE MEN REFUSE WAGES BOARD'S AWARD.

LONDON, January 3rd.

It is understood that the ballot of locomotive engineers and firemen is against acceptance of the Railway Wages Board's award.

[A Reuters' telegram, dated London, December 22nd, stated: "There has been an unexpected development in the railway wage dispute in consequence of the Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen decision on a ballot of members on the question of accepting the Wages Board's findings. In the event of their rejection, the Executive will call a national strike. This step is in contradiction to the decision of the National Union of Railwaymen."]

EMPIRE ZINC COMBINATION DEBENTURE STOCK ISSUE.

LONDON, January 3rd.

Reuters learn that in connection with the Empire zinc combination, Lloyds Bank and the National Bank of Scotland will issue on January 9th, on behalf of the Union Underwriting Agency, Limited, £1,500,000 seven per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at 90 per cent. in the National Smelting Company, redeemable at 102 by a two per cent. sinking fund; all stock to be repayable at the same price not later than 1945.

DAIL EIRANN FUNDS IN U.S. DE VALETA AND AUSTIN STACK INTERVIEWED IN PRISON.

LONDON, January 3rd.

Mr. John Finnerty, an American lawyer representing the claimants to £200,000 Dail Eirann funds in America, has interviewed De Valera and Austin Stack in Dublin prisons "preliminary to taking evidence before the American Consul in accordance with the order of the New York Supreme Court."

M. VENIZELOS IN GREECE. A SHORT STAY.

ATHENS, January 3rd.

M. Venizelos has arrived. General Plastiras and other officers went out to meet the steamer. M. Venizelos declared that he did not intend to remain long in Greece, but he would endeavour to help the country out of its present difficulties.

BRITAIN'S NATIONAL DEBT. A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE.

LONDON, January 3rd.

Treasury figures show the aggregate national debt at March 31st at £7,842,000,000, an increase of £100,000,000 compared with the previous year. This is attributable to the capitalisation of arrears of interest due to the United States and an increase in the nominal debt through conversion operations.

LOSS OF THE "DIXMUDE." INQUIRY COMMISSION BEGINS WORK.

TOULON, January 3rd.

The commission which is inquiring into the *Dixmude* has begun work. The first question to be discussed is whether meteorological reports, especially from South France were communicated to the *Dixmude* in good time.

"DIXMUDE" WRECKAGE FOUND. IN THE SEA SOUTH OF SAN MARCO.

MARSEILLES, January 3rd.

Following the discovery of charred aluminium and burnt pieces of rubber-coated fabric in various places on the west coast of Sardinia, an observation balloon now, by wireless, announces the discovery of the wreckage of the airship *Dixmude* 120 feet deep in the sea south of San Marco. The wreckage is strewn over a radius of half a mile. Dragging operations have begun.

A Bizerta report states that two bodies have been recovered from the sea off Anzerio.

RUSSIA AND SWITZERLAND. SOVIETS BOYCOTT SWISS GOODS.

GENEVA, January 3rd.

A reprisal for the acquittal of Courrid, not only are Swiss citizens expelled from Russia but a rigid boycott of Swiss goods has been proclaimed throughout Russia.

LABOUR AND THE KING. SATISFIED WITH CONSTITUTIONAL METHODS.

LONDON, January 3rd.

In a speech at Tamworth dealing with Mr. Asquith's contention that the Crown could refuse Mr. Ramsey MacDonald authority to dissolve Parliament, Mr. Frank Hodges declared that Labour believes it can consummate its programme through the British Constitution and believes the Crown will not impede its democratic aspirations, but if any backstair influence shatters this belief, then goodbye to political evolution. We should then drift to the rapids of revolution. He concluded by stating that the Labour Party has profound faith in the impartiality of the King, which no political intrigue should be permitted to destroy.

EGYPTIAN LEGATIONS. KING FUAD TO VISIT EUROPEAN CAPITALS.

PARIS, January 3rd.

The first Egyptian Legation in France has been installed at the Hotel Majestic in Paris under Mahmoud Fakry, who is also the Minister to Belgium. One of the secretaries of the Legation will be stationed at Brussels as chargé d'affaires. An Egyptian Legation at Rome has already been established. Seif El-Lehy, the Minister to the United States, has left Cherbourg for New York, and Aziz Izet, the Minister to Britain, has landed at Trieste and expects to arrive in London on January 10th.

FLOODS IN FRANCE. SITUATION STILL CRITICAL.

PARIS, January 3rd.

The flood situation is still critical. Amazing scenes, reminiscent of war-time, are being enacted in Paris and the riverside suburbs. The Seine on Thursday was 2½ feet above normal.

LOCK OUT OF BERLIN. METALWORKERS. A HUNDRED BERLIN METAL FACTORIES HAVE COME TO A STANDSTILL AS THE RESULT OF A LOCK-OUT OF 130,000 WORKERS, WHO HAVE REFUSED TO CONSENT TO A REDUCTION OF THEIR WAGES.

BERLIN, January 3rd.

DISCOVERY OF ARMS AT SINGAPORE. GERMAN SEAMEN CHARGED.

SINGAPORE, January 3rd.

A rather sensational discovery of arms and ammunition on board the Hugo Stinnes steamer *Emil Kirdorf* when she arrived at Singapore recently, led to proceedings before the Third Police Court, when three members of the crew were charged with importing arms without the proper authority to do so.

SALE OF GERMAN DYE PATENTS UPHELD. WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, JANUARY 3RD.

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, January 3rd.

The Federal District Court has sustained the sale of 5,700 German dye chemical patents to the "Chemical Foundation," which was incorporated by the Alien Property Custodian in war-time. The Government sought to have the sale set aside as unconstitutional. An appeal is being taken to the Supreme Court.

CHINESE TO STUDY CANADIAN RAILWAY METHODS. MONTREAL, JANUARY 3RD.

MONTREAL, January 3rd.

Three Chinese graduates of Nanjing University, Shanghai, have arrived here with a view to entering the service of the Canadian Pacific Railway in order to study Canadian railway methods.

U.S. GOVERNMENT OWNED SHIPPING. IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATION CHANGE.

WASHINGTON, January 3rd.

A conference at White House resulted in a decision to place operation and control of Government owned tonnage in the hands of the emergency fleet corporation with Leigh Palmer, ex-chief of the Navy Department's Bureau of Navigation as president. This is Mr. Coolidge's first endeavour to formulate a definite merchant marine policy.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION AND FIRE. MANY KILLED AND INJURED.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS, January 3rd.

A terrific explosion, believed to be due to ignition of dust in a corn products factory in the neighbouring town of Pekin, has resulted in many being killed and injured. The explosion was followed by a fire which spread to adjoining buildings, and burned fiercely, preventing access to them. Eighty persons have already been sent to hospital.

SURVIVORS SEVERELY BURNED. PEORIA, ILLINOIS, JANUARY 3RD.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS, January 3rd.

Seventy-six persons were employed on night shift in the building where the explosion occurred, and hitherto only twenty-eight are known to have escaped. Physicians fear that many of those sent to hospital will succumb to their severe burns. Survivors said there were two explosions in rapid succession, the second being the more severe.

SCRIPTURAL DOCTRINE. CLERGYMAN TO BE PROSECUTED.

DALLAS, TEXAS, JANUARY 3RD.

The standing committee of the Diocese announces that the Reverend Mr. Eke, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, will forthwith be placed on trial for expressing in the course of sermons in New York, doubt concerning the virgin birth of Christ. His opinions recently aroused a storm of protest. The proceedings against him are described as part of the movement to cleanse the Episcopal Church of modernism.

U.S. MUNITIONS FOR MEXICANS. QUESTION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, January 3rd.

The Republican, Mr. Fairchild, introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives requesting from the State Department details of the negotiations for the United States sale of war materials to Mexico.

WELSH COAL TRADE WITH CANADA. MONTREAL, JANUARY 3RD.

MONTREAL, January 3rd.

It is announced that a Company has been formed, including Sir Alfred Mond and representatives of other Welsh colliery interests, to instal a complete breaking plant at Montreal for the purpose of handling Welsh anthracite of the sizes required by the Canadian trade. It is stated that the plant will be ready to deal with shipments of coal in the opening of the coming navigation, and the Welsh coal interests are prepared to ship during the first year a minimum of a hundred thousand tons of anthracite to Canada.

SALE OF GERMAN DYE PATENTS UPHELD. WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, JANUARY 3RD.

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DEPARTMENT CONFIDENT IT CAN WIN. WASHINGTON, JANUARY 3RD.

WASHINGTON, January 3rd.

Announcing its intention to appeal against the dye patents decision, mentioned earlier, the Department of Justice expresses every confidence of ultimately winning the case.

CHINESE TO STUDY CANADIAN RAILWAY METHODS. MONTREAL, JANUARY 3RD.

MONTREAL, January 3rd.

Three Chinese graduates of Nanjing University, Shanghai, have arrived here with a view to entering the service of the Canadian Pacific Railway in order to study Canadian railway methods.

PROTECTION IN JAPAN.

Prof. Joseph H. Longford, who says he happens to be one of the few people in England who have had direct personal experience of the immediate results at hand on the substitution of a protective tariff for free trade in a great commercial and industrial country, describes his experiences in *The Times*, confining himself to a mere statement of facts, as he remembers them.

It was in Japan in 1899. Up to then Japan had what was nominally a 5 per cent. Customs tariff, practically free trade. In that year the old was replaced by a new 30 per cent. tariff, which involved a substantial but not excessive degree of protection. The prices of all the imported necessities of life rose at once, and, within six months, the rise amounted not to 30 per cent., but to 60 per cent. or more. One concrete instance is very fresh in my memory. I was accustomed to smoke an excellent brand of Manila cigars, which were sold in Japan, after having paid 5 per cent. import duty, at ¥4.00 per 100. The duty under the new tariff was 100 per cent. The traders' selling price at once rose from ¥12 to ¥18 for stock on hand, and to ¥18 for stock on order, to ¥18, though there was no increase whatever in cost at the place of production. And the case was similar in every imported article of domestic consumption, from a pot of marmalade or a tin of sardines up to a side of bacon or a case of whisky. The increase in price to the consumer was in every instance at least in twofold ratio to the increase of duty. Middlemen and tradesmen (I am referring to Europeans, not natives) had to recoup themselves for their additional outlay, and they did so generously.

So far I have written from memory. Recent statistics show that protection did not bring ruin in trade or industry. In 1899, the last complete year of free trade, the value of Japan's aggregate foreign trade was ¥4.43 millions, made up of imports ¥2.77 millions and exports ¥1.66 millions, an average per head of the population of ¥10.13 total trade; ¥6.31 imports and ¥3.79 exports. By 1921, the first of the slump years after the artificial boom that followed the war, the aggregate value had progressively increased to ¥2,997 millions; the imports to ¥1,614 millions and the exports respectively to ¥3,502, ¥2,844, and ¥2,608 per head of the population. The value of nearly wholly manufactured goods, included in imports, was ¥1,635 millions, nearly 11 times that of the whole foreign trade 23 years previously. The protective tariff had not served to diminish the ratio of imports as compared with exports, an economic aspect in which Japan resembles England. Except in the four years of the war and in two others, there was always in this period a large surplus of imports over exports; and in 1921 this surplus amounted to no less than ¥3,361 millions, though several drastic increases had been made in the duties of the original tariff. Protection did not at any time exclude foreign productions, though Japan herself was advancing by leaps and bounds as a manufacturing country, and exporting her products to all consuming countries in the world. It only made both the foreign and her own productions dearer to the consumer. From being one of the cheapest countries in the world in which to live (as well as one of the happiest) Japan has become one of the dearest, many people say the dearest. Wages have increased quite five-fold, but this great increase has been found far from sufficient to enable for a higher standard of living, at still more greatly increased prices, and the Japanese working classes have begun to display a spirit of discontent and unrest, to which they were formerly entire strangers, while the professional and middle classes are yearly finding life's struggle more severe.

OTHER TESTIMONY. MR. F. C. RIMINGTON, WRITING FROM MONTE CARLO, STATES—THE LESSON JAPAN SUPPLIES IS ALL THE MORE INSTRUCTIVE BECAUSE, IF ANY COUNTRY SHOULD, PURSUANT TO COBDENITE DOCTRINE, HAVE FOUND SALVATION IN FREE TRADE AND PERDITION IN PROTECTION, THAT COUNTRY IS JAPAN.

Like England, she had to import much of her raw material supply, and much of the raw material needed for her industries, including notably the whole of her cotton and all of her pig-iron. Notwithstanding this, she has levied substantial import duties on almost every manufactured commodity imported into the country, irrespective of whether or not it competed with her own indigenous industries. And she has been guilty of yet another economic offence against Cobdenite dogma inasmuch as, while with one hand she created a Protectionist tariff, with the other she liberally subsidised her nascent industries with aid from the State until they were solidly established. According to her Free Trade standards, these facts hereunto ought to have rendered her economic ruin, or at best her commercial and industrial stagnation.

What are the facts? Her industrial productivity and prosperity have advanced by leaps and bounds until to-day practically everything from a lacquer match to a super-Dreadnought is manufactured in Japan. The growth of her revenue has been not less remarkable. In the first year of the present century that revenue aggregated £28,855,000; by 1905 it had risen to £32,250,000; and by 1915-16 to £63,547,000. Yet, omit the following four years, when it might be argued that her prosperity was greatly inflated as a consequence of the war, notwithstanding that she was herself a belligerent. One of the most striking testimonies to her present financial soundness is that, notwithstanding the recent destruction by earthquakes of her capital city and of her principal commercial port—the reconstruction of which will entail an enormous expenditure—the Japanese £ exchange still stands at a premium.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

THREAT TO FREE TRADE REUNITES THE LIBERAL PARTY.

THE NEED FOR AN INDUSTRIAL COURT.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, November 22nd.

LIBERAL RE-UNION.

The most notable thing in the early stages of the General Election was the rapid way the two wings of the Liberal Party came together. It is all to the credit of Mr. Lloyd George that he made a full and unconditional offer to serve under his old colleague or in any other position that might be considered necessary. This was a long way to the removal of initial difficulties in the reconciliation of comrades in arms. But it is equally creditable to Mr. Asquith that he promptly agreed to work with his former lieutenant and subsequent rival. He had a lot to forgive and forget, beginning with the period when he was supplanted in the Premiership. Sir Alfred Mond was the go-between to bring the leaders and their respective followers together.

There has been a case of the Liberals of every rank and class putting their principles—the principles of Free Trade—against Protection—before persons of feeling. The effect of the reconciliation was seen immediately throughout the length and breadth of the land in all the constituencies. A few weeks ago the Liberal Party was a shattered and disorganised number of units, apparently incapable of taking an effective part in the General Election. But, as I write this week, the dispirited and scattered units have rallied everywhere to the old colours, and are full of fight and of hope. It is one of the most remarkable revivals in political history.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE IN THE FRAY.

Mr. Lloyd George's platform speeches have disclosed that his great responsibilities in recent years have done nothing to change his peculiar style of platform appeal to the masses. In that respect, his best there is nobody who can touch him. He retains his facility in the coinage of phrases. The proposal to give a preference to dried fruits and canned fish suggested to his mind the label which he applied to the Conservative programme, "the tin-can election." It was like consolidating the Empire on tinned lobster," he said, or "binding the Empire with dead crabs."

Mr. Baldwin's hesitation in setting forth his policy on regards Protection, the differences in the Conservative Party over Protection, and the lack of first-class speakers of experience produced the metaphor of a ship sailing through dangerous waters in charge of a "scratch crew of third-rate mariners who are also mineworkers."

This, of course, is not argument but it is excellent electioneering stuff, just the kind of oratory which appeals to the crowd and wins votes. You may demolish the other side by sheer logic, but how many people among the masses care for careful reasoning? Mr. Asquith's platform speeches are models of close reasoning, but he leaves his audiences cold. Mr. Baldwin can make a fine business-like statement of a case, but he can scarcely raise a cheer. Mr. Lloyd George in a few telling sentences pours ridicule on his opponents, and his audience rocks with laughter, while his opponents are galled to madness. The "tin-can election" is the kind of phrase which sticks.

THE CIVIL SERVICE AND PROTECTION.

I learn in *Whitchell* this week that one of the Civil Service Unions wrote to Mr. Baldwin asking for a promise that when his tariff proposals were adopted he would give existing civil servants first call upon the numerous new appointments that would have to be made by the State as a result of Protection. The same point about the multiplication of officials was raised before when the old Free Trade versus Protection controversy raged in Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's day. Recently, as a result of the Safeguarding of Industries Act, the Customs officials have been literally worked to death, and this is the main cause of delay in clearing goods at the ports, of which traders bitterly complain.

This request is a curious commentary on the demands of some of the Protectionist newspapers that, while saving the country by means of tariffs, the first duty of a Protectionist Government is to reduce expenditure on the State services—that, in fact, the axe should be used ruthlessly in the Civil Service. The experienced officials appear to think that Protection necessarily involves the increase of officials, and they certainly ought to know.

LORD MORLEY'S BAN.

Lord Morley's ban on biographers, so far as his own life is concerned, is much discussed in London. His will contains a clause that his executors are not to allow anybody to look through his private papers and documents in order to obtain materials for a biography of himself. One suggestion offered is that his vanity prompted him to deny information and so avoid the risk of belittling comments on his career; but this seems scarcely convincing. Another suggestion is that he knew more than most how impossible it is for a man to tell the story of another man's life properly.

BRITISH-GROWN TOBACCO.

The movement to foster the cultivation of tobacco in this country has received a decided setback owing to the findings of the Committee appointed early in the present year by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to consider the question in all its bearings. The Committee say that while a limited number of agriculturists might derive some benefit from a State subsidy, they are unanimously of opinion that public funds ought not to be applied for the purpose.

One reason for this emphatic statement—the chief reason, I believe—is that British-grown tobacco has a distinctive flavour which is not liked by smokers. Consequently, there could only be a limited demand for the leaf produced here. There is just a probability that with a subsidy to assist growers the price to consumers would be reduced to such an extent that demand would be stimulated and the public taste would change; but this is at best a speculation. It would not justify the use of the taxpayers' money. On the whole, this is a reasonable and business-like way of looking at the matter.

I am told in trade circles that not only is British-grown tobacco not a commercial proposition, but even Empire-grown tobacco will not please the taste of devotees at the shrine of Mr. Lady Nicotine, and this is said to be the fact despite Mr. Baldwin's proposal to remit a quarter of the duty in the sacred name of Imperial Preference. It appears that to produce a good smoking mixture it is necessary to take the tobacco of at least four countries and blend it in order to make it acceptable to the palate of discriminating smokers.

WHAT ABOUT WHALES?

It is all to the good that an expedition is being organised to collect information about the life-history of whales in the southern seas. For some years it has been known that the hunting of whales has been done so effectively that they have almost been annihilated in certain waters where previously they abounded. Perhaps this is not surprising since about £1,000,000 annually is derived from whale-hunting in south latitudes. Captain Scott's old ship the *Discovery*, newly equipped, is to be fitted out for this expedition under the control of the British Government and the financial supplies of the Government of the Falkland Islands.

The expedition will try to solve the mystery of the age of whales. It is supposed that they live an enormous time; but no data is available. The plan to be adopted is to fire small darts into young whales as and when they are encountered. The darts will become embedded in the skin, and if in the course of time these whales are killed the date on it will show what growth has taken place in the period that has elapsed. There will also be some evidence as to the movements of the whales—whether, for instance, they cross the Equator.

THE LATE DR. CLIFFORD.

Dr. Clifford's sudden death has called forth a remarkable number of tributes to his work, not only on behalf of Non-conformity but in the wider sphere of social well-being. He was 87 years of age, and no man had spent a more strenuous life of public service. I dare say in his way he was the most striking figure as an individual champion of Non-conformity that we have seen since the days of John Wesley. For 57 years Dr. Clifford was minister at Westbourne Park Chapel, London, and it was this long connection that gave him an outstanding position among Londoners as a preacher and leader.

The fact that he started life as a boy of 10 in a Nottingham factory, and that he educated himself to such good purpose that at 19 he was selected for a ministerial career, is proof of his exceptional gifts. He was small of stature, but it was something to remember when you heard him preaching or on the platform, thrilling audiences by his fervent passion and his indignation. His great motto was "Don't worry—worry is waste." He never worried, and was always fresh, no matter how hard he worked.

Something like seven millions sterling has been lost to masters and men by the boiler-makers' dispute which was patched up this week. This Labour trouble has been going on for eight months, and it makes one almost despair of Trades Unionism. Incidentally, it invites the question whether the claim to strike made about the "solidarity of Labour" is not a hollow pretence.

In March there was an agreement regarding overtime and night shifts between the shipyard employers and the Federation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Trade Unions. One of the members of the Federation was the Boiler-makers' Society. But the boiler-makers refused to accept the agreement, and were locked out by the employers. They were also expelled from the Federation. From then until now they have refused to treat in regard to their alleged grievances, with the result that over 60,000 Trade Unionists in various trades dependent upon the boiler-makers have been thrown idle. The latter are a small body comparatively, with about 10,000 members, and they have themselves expended over £100,000 a month in unemployment pay.

After all these weary months, during which ships have been sent abroad for repairs and new construction has been held up, the points in dispute are now to be discussed round the table, and if agreement cannot be reached the questions are to be referred to the Industrial Court. This could have been done in the first instance, and all the loss that has been incurred would have been avoided. It is evident that, in the interests of the country as well as of Trade Unions, disputes over conditions of employment should be subject to decision by the Industrial Court as a matter of course and right, and I believe this unfortunate quarrel, if it has done nothing else, has helped to shape opinion in that direction.—H.B.

PUBLICITY AND TRADE.

Addressing the Chamber of Trade at Hastings on November 20th, Mr. Simon Clark said the importance of publicity as a preventive of unemployment was not sufficiently appreciated. It was an unquestionable fact that manufacturing and distributing firms who consistently advertised in the newspaper Press were much better able to withstand periods of trade depression than non-advertising firms. Through such publicity their wares were known over a much wider area, and they enjoyed a greatly increased field of operations, which tended to stabilize their trade. Newspapers, both daily and weekly, afforded, the most economical method yet devised of extending trade, and so minimising unemployment.

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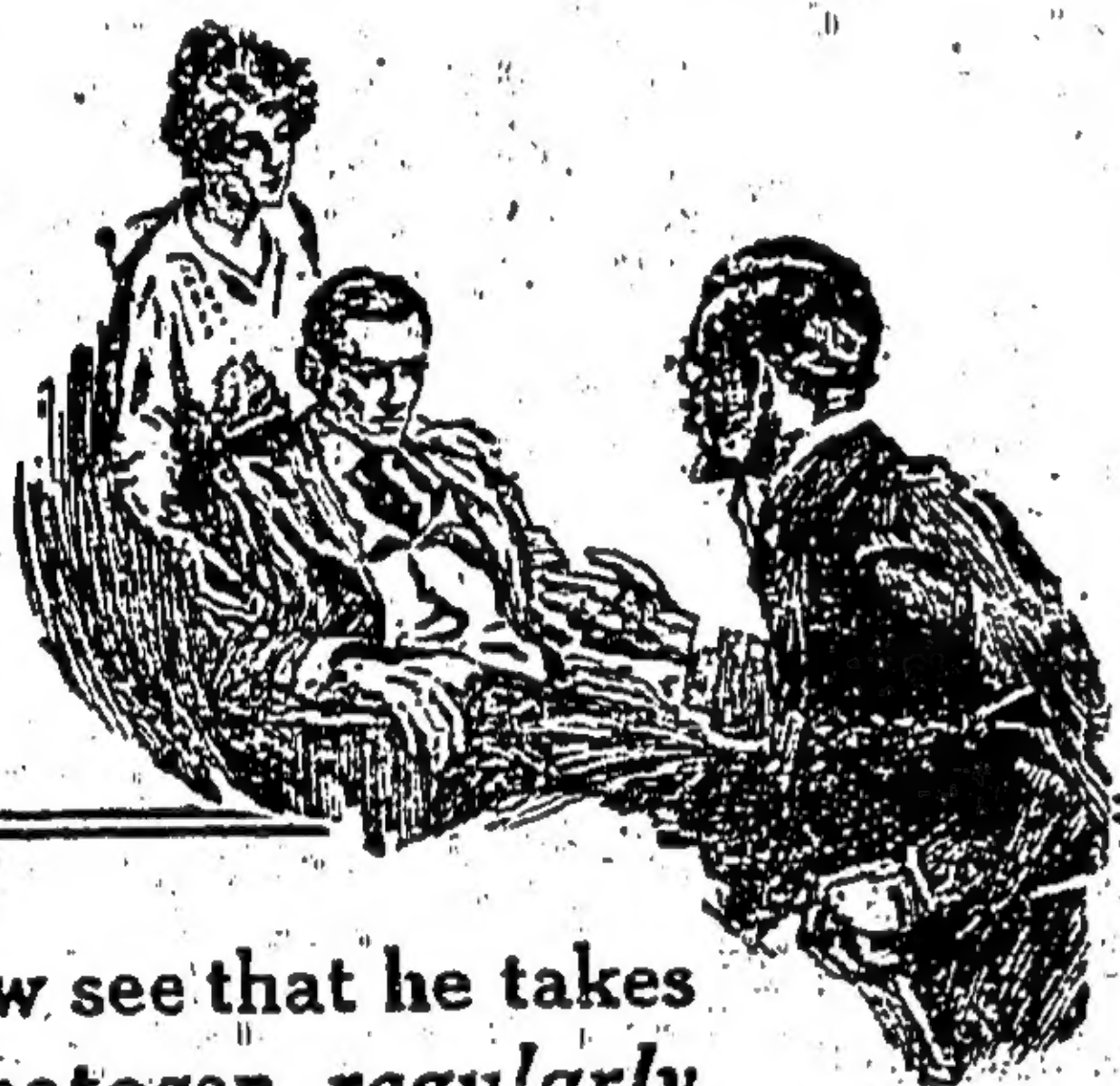
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| Tor Hotel | Japan Hotel | |
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THE RECENT GENERAL ELECTION.

38 WOMEN CANDIDATES.

Following is the full list—38 in all—of women candidates who were nominated at the recent General Election in Great Britain.

CONSERVATIVE.
Viscountess Astor, Sutton Div., Plymouth.
Duchess of Atholl, Kinross & W. Perthshire.
Hon. Mrs. Brodrick, Denbigh.
Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan, North Camberwell.
Miss Pilkington, St. Helena, Lucre.
Miss Violet Robertson, Glasgow, St. Bellox Div.
Miss Rachel Parsons, Lucre, Lucre.
Mrs. Hilton Phillipson, Berwick-on-Tweed.

LIBERAL.
Mrs. Corbett Abdy, Richmond.
Mrs. George Cadbury, Birmingham.
King's Norton Div.
Mrs. Randolph Clark, Birmingham, Moseley Div.
Mrs. Dimdale, Cambridge County.
Mrs. H. Pollard, Gower, Glamorgan-shire.
Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, Hastings.
Miss Mary Grant, Pontefract, Yorks.
Mrs. Rowley Moody, Hanley, Staffs.
Lady Strathgairn, Glasgow, Pollok Div.
Lady Terrington, Bucks., Wycombe Div.
Miss Ursula Williams, Durham, Consett Div.
Mrs. Winttingham, Louth.
Miss Helen Fraser, Lark, Hamilton Div.

LABOUR.
Dr. Ethel Bennet, East Islington.
Mrs. Margaret Bondfield, Northampton.
Mrs. Corner, Surrey, Farnham Div.
Mrs. Hamilton, Chatham.
Mrs. Agnes Dollan, Glasgow, Hillhead Div.
Miss Dorothy Johnson, Norwich.
Miss Susan Lawrence, East Ham North.
Miss Minnie Pallister, Bourne-mouth.
Mrs. E. Palmer, Isle of Wight.
Miss Mary Richardson, South Acton.
Miss Jessie Stead, Portsmouth South.
Mrs. Simpson, West Dorset.
Countess of Warwick, Warwick and Leamington.
Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Ashton-under-Lyne.

INDEPENDENT.
Mrs. Barton (Co-operative), Birmingham.
Mrs. Oliver Stracher (Ind.), Brentford and Chiswick.
Mrs. Wood (Ind. Unionist), West Belfast.
Viscountess Astor, Mrs. Winttingham, and Mrs. Phillipson were the women members of the previous Parliament.

LONG-RUN ROMANCES.

"The Co-Optimists" gave their thousandth performance in London last month and "The Merry Widow" was played for the thousandth time a few days later. In each case, says a writer in a London paper, if you examine, you find the same outstanding qualities—humour, gaiety, attractive music in plenty.

Are these things the secret of exceptionally long runs in the theatre? To support such a suggestion there are the further instances of "The Beggar's Opera," "The Maid of the Mountains," "A Chinese Honeymoon," and "Chu Chin Chow," which are among the eleven plays and entertainments that have been played more than one thousand times.

All the pieces that have achieved over a thousand performances without a break are humorous ones, three of them—"Charley's Aunt," "Our Boys," "A Little Bit of Fluff"—being non-musical. The only play essentially not humorous that has ever lasted ten hundred times without a revival was "Romance."

There is one remarkable thing about several of these proved gold mines of the theatre—they set out with very poor prospects of any exceptional success. "The Beggar's Opera," for instance, lay neglected by managers from 1893, when it had a run at the old Avenue Theatre (wrecked when the roof of Charing Cross railway station fell in), till it began its record run at Hammermith in June, 1920.

"Chu Chin Chow" was written to pass the time and "for a joke." Mr. Oscar Asche sent it to Daly's Theatre, and they never looked at it, and elsewhere, only to be told it was "no good." It was played 228 times without a break when it was ultimately put on at His Majesty's Theatre.

The success of both "The Co-Optimists" and "The Merry Widow" is a romance of the theatre.

Mr. George Graves, who still plays the part of the absurd "Baron Popoff" in "The Merry Widow," on almost exactly the same lines as when he originated it in 1907, told me the other day that there was a time when the late George Edwards would have sold his rights in the play for quite a small sum of money.

"As for my own part," he said, "you could have got it on a sheet of notepaper almost, and I thought so little of our chances that even the music of the play did not at first strike me as being anything out of the ordinary."

"The Co-Optimists" began in the middle of a heat wave and a coal strike and with a capital of only £200. They had just £200 behind them on their first night. An hour before the curtain went up on the opening performance some of the company thought that the show was "awful," and a number of supposedly expert judges said that it would not run for a month. The "Co-Optimists" have played to a gross turnover of well over a quarter of a million pounds, making money hand over fist wherever they have performed.

It seems to be impossible to analyse completely these long runs and their reasons; they just happen.

Dismissing the suit of Mrs. Dorothy Grace Barnett for a decree of restitution of conjugal rights, on November 21st, Mr. Justice Hill said that letters written by petitioner at the time of the suggested genuine reconciliation by the husband, showed her to have been acting a part, and to be, in fact, an odious hypocrite.

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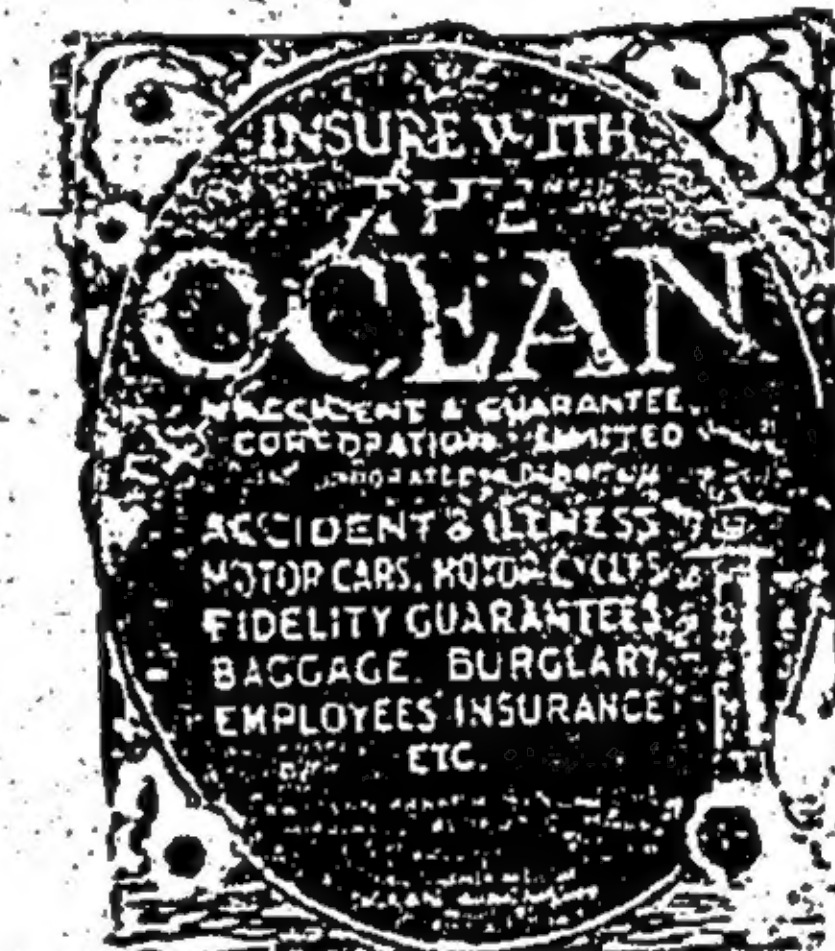
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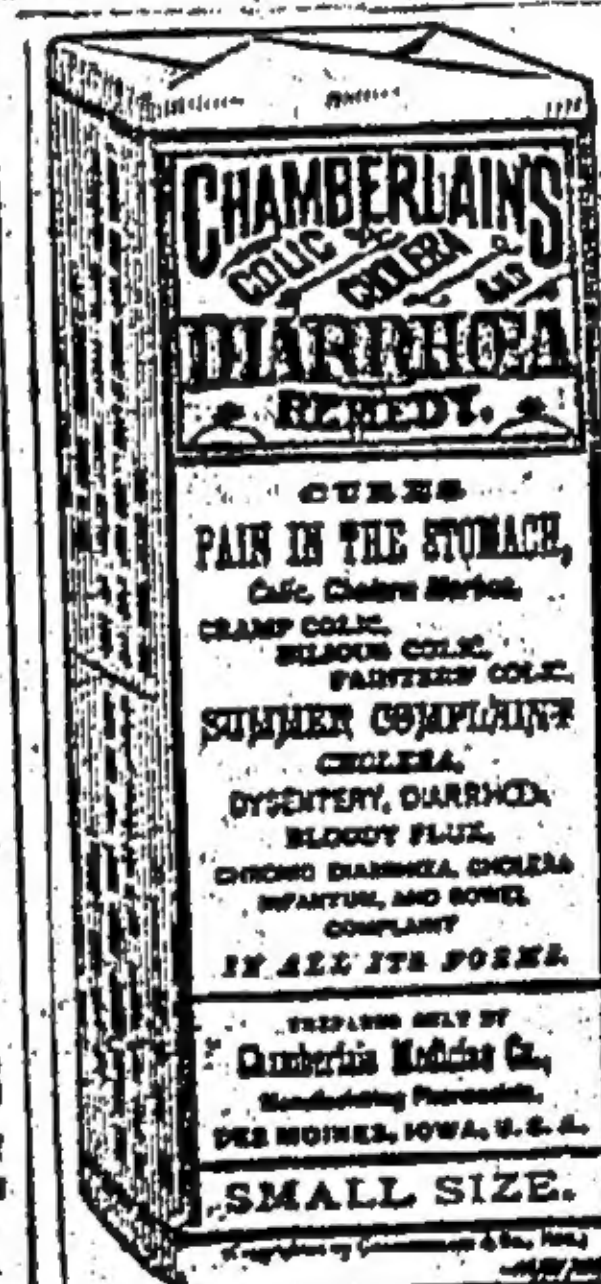
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AHEAD OF THE MAIL

(FROM LONDON PAPERS.)

A NEW SECRET SOCIETY.

LONDON, December 31st.

A good deal of interest has been aroused recently by the Commemorative Service held in Westminster Abbey on November 28th of the "Order of Crusaders."

Conflicting statements have appeared in the Press in regard to the Order, which is described in some quarters as a sort of British Fascist organisation or a Ku Klux Klan.

In an article in the *Sunday Express*, Lieut-General Sir Edward Bethune, a leading Crusader, explains the aims and objects of the Order. He says that its supreme object is to try to perpetuate the spirit of comradeship, service loyalty and self-sacrifice by means of a Brotherhood bound together by a vow. The members recognise one another by signs and passwords, and they hope to establish throughout the Empire a body vowed to honour God, be loyal to King and country and to their better selves, and to help the unfortunate, whether Crusaders or not. No underlying menace of organised force is to be used for any purpose, nor, as the Crusade embraces all political creeds, and all sects who recognise the teachings of Christ, could its machinery be used for influencing political or other issues. All British-born subjects are eligible for membership, and the statement that the Order is inimical to Jews is quite untrue, although, as the badge of the Order is the sign of the Cross, a professing Jew would probably not wish to join the Order. The spirit of the Unknown Warrior has been adopted as the Order's first Knight. Thousands of letters are reaching the headquarters of the Order from all parts of the world, expressing a wish to join the Association.

WEMBLEY'S ACOUSTIC QUALITIES

LONDON, December 11th.

Noises of various kinds were produced in the stadium at Wembley to-day with the object of testing the acoustic properties of the place and the ability of a number of loud-speakers to increase the volume of sound. Eight loud-speakers were used, mounted on a platform 20 feet high, and there were two microphones on a movable stand to pick up the noise.

The first experiment was made with a military band of a hundred performers, who played first without amplification then with amplifiers. Although the band could be heard easily inside the huge enclosure without the assistance of loud-speakers, when the amplifiers were used, the lighter instruments such as clarinettes and oboes could be heard much more easily than the heavy brass instruments.

Vocal and string quartettes followed, and then Basil Gill and Owen Nares gave brief recitations.

Experiments were also conducted with explosions and other heavy noises with the object of discovering if this method could be employed during a pageant in connection with the Empire Exhibition. One experiment consisted of half a dozen Sergeants reading paragraphs from newspapers, each man reading as fast as he could on some entirely different subject to his neighbour, thus producing a noise equivalent to a large crowd clamouring and shouting.

POSTPONEMENT OF REAL CRISIS.

LONDON, December 11th.

As a result of a considerable amount of kite-flying in the various political camps in the past days, the situation has now crystallised into the real crisis is postponed until the middle of January.

Certain sections of Conservatives, until yesterday, openly linked at the tactical advantage of encouraging the formation of a Labour Government, being of the opinion that the Conservatives would profit from the discredit which, it is believed, would ensue, but the fact that this desire is not general is shown by messages from Conservative organisations throughout the country which were responsible for last evening's announcement regarding Mr. Baldwin's resignation of office.

Nevertheless, Conservatives are not yet completely united. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, being interviewed last night, said that, instead of waiting for the crisis which must come in January, Mr. Baldwin should resign immediately and recommend His Majesty to summon Lord Balfour.

This prediction of defeat is supported in the Liberal and Labour Press, which to-day demands Mr. Baldwin's retirement on the ground that he is without a policy for dealing with unemployment.

An informal meeting of Labour leaders yesterday yielded the unofficial announcement that Labour is willing to take over the reins. In that event the nature of their policy may determine the life of the present Parliament, since the Liberals, while refusing to contemplate any form of obligation or understanding with any other Party, repeat their readiness not to oppose the Labour programme if the more extreme planks are omitted.

On the other hand Liberal papers are discussing the feasibility of the Liberals conducting a more or less stable government in the event of the Conservatives and Labourites breaking down. Weight is lent to these Liberal views by reason of their unanimity following the conference between Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Asquith last night.

It is stated that 22,166 essays have been received in the contest for the £20,000 offered by Mr. E. Bok for the best practical plan by which the United States may co-operate with the other nations to secure and preserve the peace of the world. The jury expect to give their decision on January 1st.

A WASTE OF GOOD FOOD.

In many countries during the Great War, it was made a criminal offence to waste food. Waste of no war, no right-minded individual ever does wilfully waste good food, but a great many of us do waste it, in spite of ourselves.

Any of the food we eat, which is not thoroughly digested and assimilated, is wasted, and this waste occurs whenever our principal organs of digestion—the stomach, liver and bowels—lose their tone, and with it the power to do their work efficiently.

The immediate consequences of tenacious pains after eating, flatulence, acidity, headache, biliousness, constipation and other disagreeable signs that our digestive system is out of order. Later, just because we are not obtaining full value from the food we have eaten, we begin to lose our strength and energy.

All that is necessary to banish these troubles and prevent their return, is to restore the digestive organs to thorough, natural, working order, and for this purpose no medicine is so sure or so well recommended as the world-famous and reliable digestive tonic, Mother Seigel's Syrup. For over fifty years this medicine has been the tried and true friend of all who suffer from stomach and liver troubles. This popular remedy is prepared from the medicinal extracts of more than ten different roots, barks and herbs, which in combination have a remarkably beneficial effect upon the digestive organs.

Mother Seigel's Syrup tones and strengthens the stomach, stimulates the liver, and restores the bowels to healthy activity, thereby ensuring, in a natural way, complete digestion and assimilation of food. Appetite improves, food is again eaten and enjoyed, and you wake up in the morning feeling fresh and ready for your work.

In every part of the British Empire, Mother Seigel's Syrup is regularly taken and recommended by those who know its sterling worth, and have experienced for themselves what benefits are derived from its use. Thousands of such people take a dose of the Syrup regularly, after each of the principal meals of the day, and they say they owe to this simple precaution their freedom from indigestion, their energy and good health.

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—R. 254

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| SAILINGS | SUBJECT TO ALTERATION. | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| SANDAKAN | HAIPHONG via HOIHOW | 5th Jan. 1 p.m. |
| BANGKOK via SWATOW | "CHONGSHING" | 6th Jan. 10 a.m. |
| TEINGTAU via SWATOW | "HONGSANG" | 8th Jan. 8 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "YATSHING" | Wednesday, 9th Jan. 7 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI via SWATOW | "HONGSANG" | Wednesday, 9th Jan. 3 p.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "KWONGSANG" | Friday, 11th Jan. 7 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "FOOSHING" | Saturday, 12th Jan. 7 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "YUENSANG" | Saturday, 12th Jan. 11 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI via SWATOW | "TAKSANG" | Sunday, 13th Jan. 7 a.m. |
| TEINGTAU via SWATOW | "WINGSANG" | Wednesday, 16th Jan. 7 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "NAMSANG" | Wednesday, 16th Jan. 3 p.m. |
| SHANGHAI via SWATOW | "KUTSANG" | Thursday, 17th Jan. 7 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "CHUNSHANG" | Wednesday, 30th Jan. 7 a.m. |

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Bangkok Line—A weekly service is provided between Hongkong and Bangkok via Swatow by five steamers fitted with up-to-date passenger accommodation.

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S.S. "HOSANG" will be despatched on or about Wednesday, 9th Jan., at 3 p.m., for SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA.

Through Bills of Lading issued to RANGOON, MADRAS, PORT SWETTENHAM and DUTCH EAST INDIES

For Freight or Passage apply to—

Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

GENERAL MANAGERS

TELEPHONE CENTRAL No. 215

GLEN AND SHIRE

JOINT SERVICE OF STEAMERS

U.K.—STRAITS, CHINA & JAPAN SERVICE

OUTWARDS.

HOMEWARDS.

| Vessel | Dis. Hongkong | Vessel | Leaves Hongkong. Discharge |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| "GLENBEG" | 14th Jan. | "GLENARA" | 20th Jan. |
| "GLENBANDA" | 28th Jan. | "GLENARA" | London, Rotterdam & Hamburg. |
| "GLENBESIDE" | 7th Feb. | "GLENBEG" | 1st Mar. |
| "GLENBESIDE" | 25th Feb. | "GLENARA" | Genua, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg. |
| "GLENBEG" | 10th Mar. | | |

Movements are subject to change without notice.

For freight or further particulars please apply to—

Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

The Glen Line, Ltd., AGENTS.

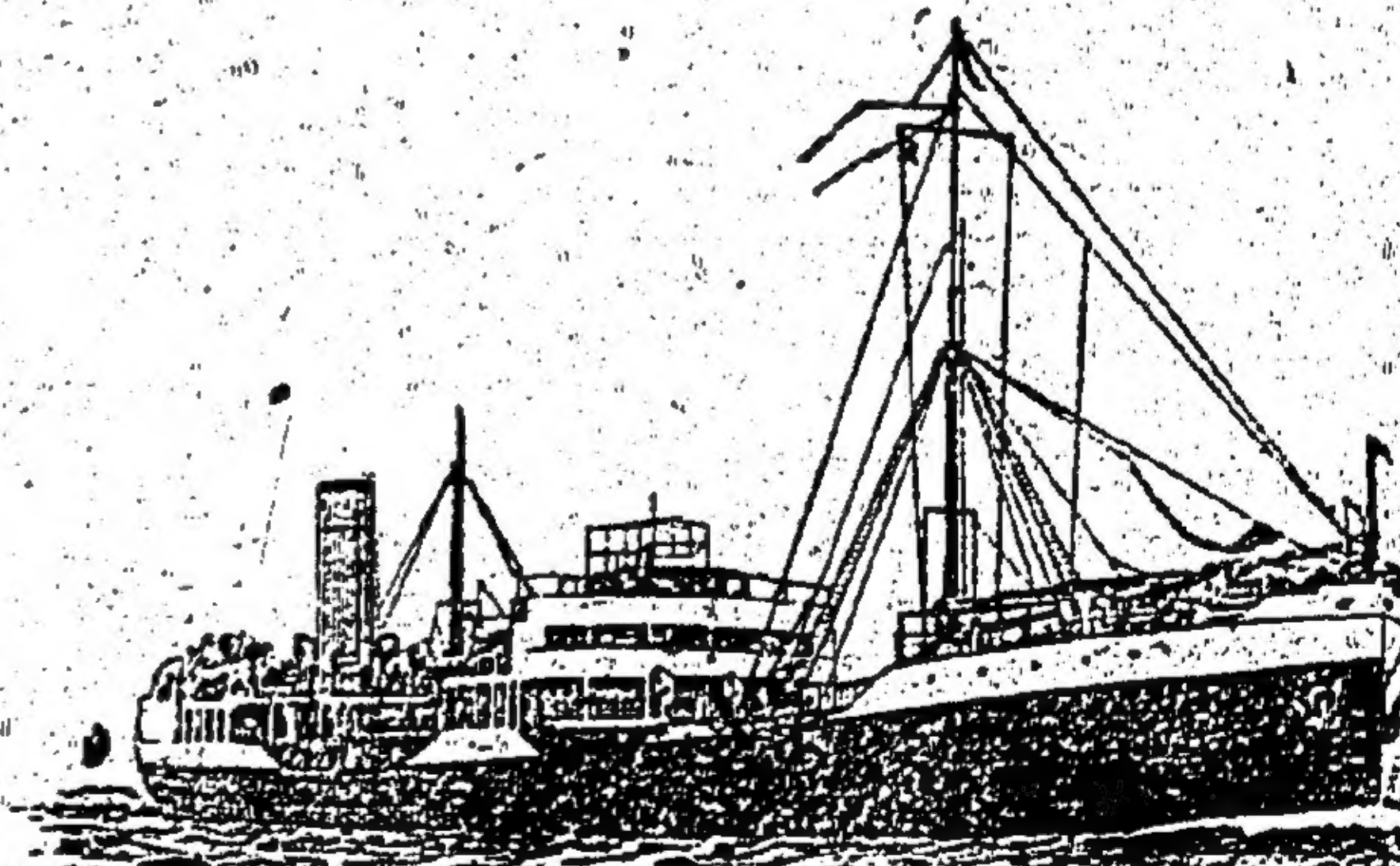
Telephone: Central No. 215 and 216; and Central 215.

THE HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "MANIFESTO," HONGKONG.

CODES USED: A1, A.B.C. Fifth Edition; Engineering: First and Second Edition Western Union and Watkins, Benson's, Marconi.

Dock Owners, Ship Builders, Marine and Land Engineers, Boiler Makers, Iron and Brass Founders, Forge Masters, Electricians.



OIL TANK STEAMER "PALUDINA"

427' 6" x 58' 1" x 31' 0" 2,400 tons d.w. x 2,100 H.P.

Built by THE HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD., at KOWLOON DOCKS to the order of THE ANGLO Saxon PETROLEUM CO., LTD., being one of four similar vessels built in these WORKS to the same order.

Please address enquiries to the Chief Manager:

R. M. DYER, B.Sc., M.I.N.A., Kowloon Dock, HONGKONG.

SHIPPING NEWS

ARRIVALS.

January 3rd.
Albion Maru, Japanese str., 1,100 tons, Capt. T. Yuchi, from Kwangyen and Hoihow, with a cargo of lime stone, lying at buoy No. 331.—Y.K.K.
Kwai, Chinese str., 400 tons, Capt. Kwok On, from Kwang Chow Wan, with a general cargo, lying at Sai-kong wharf.—Y.K.K.
Yahiko Maru, Japanese str., 1,600 tons, Capt. I. Itoh, from Taihay, with a cargo of lime stone, lying at Kowloon Bay.—Y.K.K.
January 4th.
Amboin, French str., 4,010 tons, Capt. Schwab, from Marseilles and Saigon, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 42.—M.M.
Amo Maru, Japanese str., 2,747 tons, Capt. P. Takeida, from Moji, with a general cargo, lying at Kowloon wharf.—Y.K.K.
Borneo Maru, Japanese str., 4,200 tons, Capt. J. Kojima, from Moji, with a general cargo, lying at Kowloon wharf.—O.S.K.
Hoboken, Norwegian str., 700 tons, Capt. R. Heleson, from Samarinda, with a cargo of lime stone, lying at buoy No. 350.—Glen.
Hongkong, British str., from Canton, lying at buoy No. 412.
Ho Sang, British str., 5,670 tons, Capt. J. M. Wright, from Kobe, with a general cargo, lying at Kowloon wharf.—J. M. & Co.
Kahoon, British str., 1,500 tons, Capt. G. H. Pennington, from Bangkok and Swatow, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 331.—Y.K.K.
Malacca Maru, Japanese str., 2,210 tons, Capt. Akashi, from Bombay and Singapore, with a general cargo, lying at Kowloon wharf.—Y.K.K.
Phanpham, British str., 1,400 tons, Capt. E. Holmes, from Saigon, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 412.—W. & A. Farthing.
Panlong, British str., 1,000 tons, Capt. J. G. Smith, from Saigon, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 331.—Y.K.K.
President Wilson, American str., 5,100 tons, from San Francisco and Shanghai, with a general cargo, lying at Kowloon wharf.—Pacific Mail S.S. & Co.
Selen, Swedish str., from Canton, lying at buoy No. 331.
Seahorse, British str., from Canton, lying at buoy No. 331.
Tatung, Dutch str., 2,000 tons, Capt. J. R. Buis, from Mule, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 45.—Java China Japan-Lin.
Tan Chuan, Dutch str., 2,500 tons, Capt. F. Schelle, from Amoy and Swatow, with a general cargo, lying at buoy No. 45.—Java China Japan-Lin.

CLEARANCES.

January 4th.
Amboin, for Shanghai.
Borneo Maru, for Moji.
Borneo Maru, for Singapore.
Drum, for Saigon.
Futaba Maru, for Takao.
Hongkong, for Swatow.
Kwai, for Kwang Chow Wan.
Lai Sang, for Singapore.
Lake Glimu, for Kowloon.
Malacca Maru, for Kowloon.
Phanpham, for Saigon.
Philippine, for Nanyang.
Quinn, for Manila.
Selen, for Chin Wang Tao.
Sang Hai, for Canton.
Siammar, for Shanghai.
Sui Sang, for Manila.
Tai Sui, for Canton.
Tatung, for Macao.
Tan Chuan, for Singapore.
Yahiko Maru, for Taihay.
Yan On, for Hoihow.
The Ying Wan, for Hoihow.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVALS.
 Per M.M. s.s. *Amboin*, on January 4th: Mr. Quintors, Mr. and Mrs. Perez, Mr. and Mrs. Alfaro, Mr. and Mrs. Vianna, Mr. Costa, Mr. and Mrs. Santos, Mr. and Mrs. d'Oliveira, Mr. and Mrs. Pandey, Mr. de Souza, Mr. F. Rosa Yez, Mr. de Briton, Mr. N. Duarte, Mr. James, Mr. S. L. Pak, Mr. Mesbit, Mr. and Mrs. Carlos, Rev. M. St. Xavier, Mr. Dunn, Mr. L. U. Bernad, Mr. H. P. Dourleigne.
 DEPARTURES.
 Per M.M. s.s. *Amboin*, on January 4th: Capt. W. Davidson, Mr. H. W. B. Meekin, Mr. G. W. Golden, Mr. R. L. S. Webb, Mr. G. F. H. Richard, Mr. W. E. D. Smith, Mr. D. S. Stephenson, Mr. G. A. Green, Mr. J. Shaw, Mr. W. Neil, Mr. G. R. W. Thomson, Mr. E. A. Jew, Mr. J. C. Stewart, Mr. E. J. Dowley, Mr. Hopper, Mr. Neill, Mr. L. A. Franco, Mr. Vergani, Rev. G. Vien.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS.

The Admiral Oriental Liner *President Grant*, sailed from Manila on January 3rd and is due here at 7.30 a.m. to-day. She will sail for Victoria and Seattle via Shanghai and Japan on January 7th, at 10 a.m.
 The R.I. and Apear Co.'s s.s. *Japan* left Singapore for this port on the 30th ult., and is due here to-day, at about 1 p.m.

CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.—8th January, 1924, Epiphany Sunday.
 Holy Communion (8 a.m.), Children's Service (10 a.m.).—Hymns, 76, 218, 80.
 Matins (11 a.m.).—Responses: Ferial; Venite No. 7 (Spoken); Psalms, 72 (Robinson); Te Deum, Quadruple (Oakley); Benedictus, 5 (Elvey); Hymns, 76, 79.
 N.B.—Psalms 72, verses 1, 2, 15, 16, 19 in unison.
 Holy Communion (12 noon). Evening (8 p.m.). Responses: Ferial; Psalms, 94, 97, 117; Magnificat, No. 31 (Hopkins); Mass: Dimitis, No. 8 (Lloyd); Hymns, 173 (Part 1), 185, 80; Voluntary, Choral Prelude on "Dixie" "A" M 80, Sir H. H. Parry.
 N.B.—Psalms 96, verses 1, 2, 7, 12 in unison. Psalm 97, verses 1, 12 in unison. Hymn, 165, verses 3, 8 in unison. Hymn 80, verse 4 in unison. [115]

Union Church (Kennedy Road).—Sunday Services January 6th.
 Morning Service at 11 a.m.:—Hymns: 79, 72, 69, 584.
 Communion at 12 a.m.:—Open to all Christians.
 Men's Meeting at 3.30 p.m.:—Address by Mr. T. J. Price, B.Sc., Sold by Mrs. S. Collett.
 Evening Service at 6 p.m.:—Hymns: 74, 143, 612, 608, 555.
 Preacher, both Morning and Evening:—Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, New Year Sermons. [1583]

First Church of Christ Scientist, MacDonnell Road (below Bowen Road Tram Station).—Sunday, 11.15 a.m. Wednesday, 3.45 p.m. [183]

WEATHER REPORT.

January 4th at 17.45.—Pressure changes are slight at all reporting stations. The anticyclone appears to have increased slightly in intensity and spread southwards. Moderate monsoon will continue over the north part of the China Sea.
 Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 18 hours, 4th January, 0.60 inch. Total since January 1st, 0.64 inches, against an average of 0.11 inches.
 The forecast for the 24 hours ending at 18 hours, Jan. 5th is as follows:—

| District | Forecast |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Formosa Channel | N.E. winds, fresh. |
| Hongkong to Gap Rock | N.E. winds, moderate; fine. |
| South coast of China between Hongkong and Lantau | do. |
| South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan | do. |

"GLEN" LINE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
 FROM UNITED KINGDOM AND STRAITS.

THE Steam Ship
 "GLENIFFER"
 having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.
 Goods not cleared by the 6th January, 1924 at Noon, will be subject to rent.
 All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined in the presence of Consignees by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas, on 4th January, 1924, at 10 a.m. Claims against the Steamer including those for cargo short delivered must be presented on the special form provided, and must also be submitted within 30 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.
 No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.
 Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Agents.
 Hongkong, 29th December, 1923. [141]

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART
MAATSCHAPPY.

(ROYAL PACKET NAVIGATION CO. OF BATAVIA)

THE STEAMSHIP

"VAN CLOON"

will be despatched to

SINGAPORE, PENANG via BELAWAN-DELI DIRECT,

5th January, 1924.

1st Class Fare to Singapore—\$100.

This vessel offers excellent saloon accommodation.
 All lower berths. Doctor carried.
 English cuisine. Wireless telegraph.

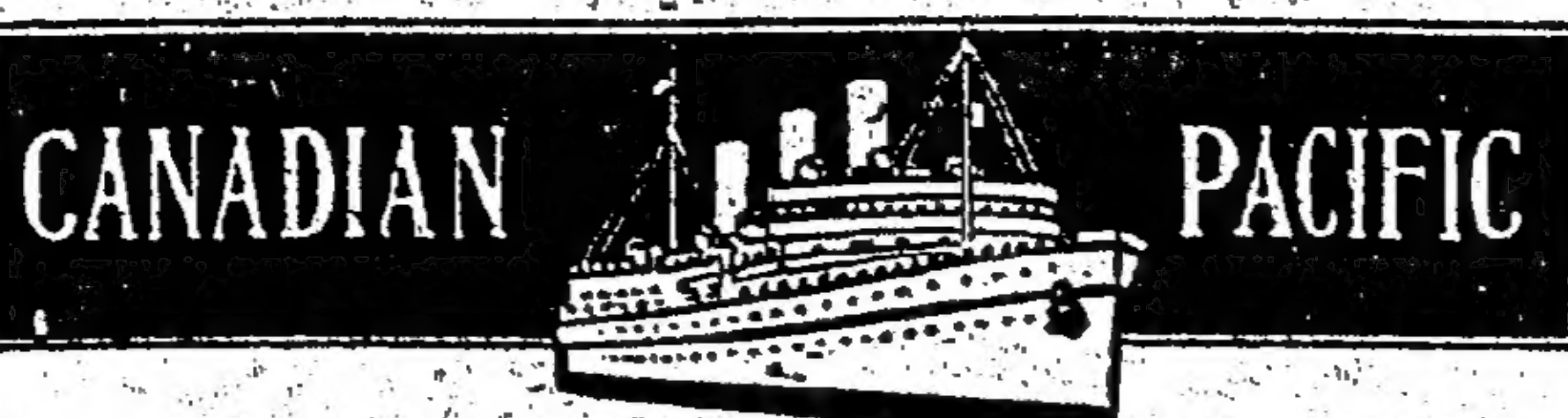
In connection with the Royal Packet Nav. Co.'s (K.P.M.) services to all destinations in the Netherlands East Indies.

For Freight and passage apply to:—

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN-LYN,

Telephone Central No. 1574.

Agents.



HOME VIA CANADA

Hongkong to England

| From | To | Ship | Day | Time |
|----------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Hongkong | England | Empress Asia | Jan. 10 | Jan. 23 |
| Hongkong | England | Empress Russia | Feb. 7 | Feb. 25 |
| Hongkong | England | Empress Australia | Feb. 22 | Mar. 12 |
| Hongkong | England | Empress Asia | Mar. 13 | Mar. 31 |

Other Atlantic Sailings every few days to Liverpool, Southampton, Glasgow, Antwerp, Cherbourg and Hamburg. Allotment of cabins on Atlantic steamers held here and through tickets issued. Early reservation necessary.

HONGKONG-MANILA SERVICE.

Connecting with the arrival of the *Empress of Russia*, 25th March, the *Empress of Russia* and *Empress of Asia* will make the round trip to Manila from Hongkong, leaving Hongkong on Wednesday after arrival, arriving Manila Friday Morning, leaving Manila Saturday Evening and arriving Hongkong Monday Morning, 7 a.m.

Three Trans-continental Trains Daily.

Standard Sleeping Cars, Compartments & Drawing Rooms.

Canadian Pacific Hotels at Victoria, Vancouver, in the Rockies, Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal and Quebec.

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T. K. K.

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| First class through-out | Second class through-out |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| £120 | £112-£110 |

Mono class steamers on the Atlantic.
 HONGKONG TO SAN FRANCISCO.
 VIA SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA AND HONOLULU.
 STEAMERS
 TENYO MARU (calling at Manila) 22,000 tons, Jan. 6th, 1924.
 KOREA MARU 22,000 tons, Jan. 20th, 1924.
 SHINYO MARU (calling at Manila) 22,000 tons, Feb. 1st, 1924.
 SHIBUBA MARU (calling at Dairen) 22,000 tons, Feb. 17th, 1924.
 TAIYO MARU 22,000 tons, Mar. 15th (from Y'hama).

HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO.

VIA JAPAN, HONOLULU, HILO, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, MANZANILLO, BALBOA, CALLEJO, MOLLENDO, ARICA AND IQUIQUE.
 THENCE BY TRANS-ANDREAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.
 STEAMERS
 RAKUYO MARU 18,500 tons, Jan. 25th.
 JAPAN-HONGKONG-JAVA SERVICE.

OSAKA, KOBE, MOJI, DAIREN, HONGKONG, BATAVIA, SAMARANG AND SOERABAYA.

STEAMER DESTINATION LEAVE HONGKONG
 PERSIA MARU Mon. Kobe & Osaka Jan. 23rd.
 NEW YORK LINE (Freight only) Jan. 23rd.
 VIA JAVA AND SUEZ. LEAVE HONGKONG

For full information regarding Passengers, Freight & Sailings.
 Apply to: Y. TSUTSUMI, Manager, King's Building, Tel. No. C. 2374 & 2375.
 Messrs. T. E. GRIFFITH.

COMPANIA TRASATLANTICA DE BARCELONA

Spanish Royal Mail Line

For MANILA, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, SUEZ, PORTSAID, BARCELONA and other SPANISH PORTS.
 S.S. "ISLA DE PANAY" ... 8th Feb. 1924.
 For SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
 S.S. "ISLA DE PANAY" ... 19th Jan. 1924.

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FREIGHT AND PASSENGER
 THE NEW FAST AMERICAN STEAMERS TO
 SEATTLE & VICTORIA
 SHANGHAI-KOBE-YOKOHAMA.

"PRESIDENT GRANT" ... Jan. 6th.
 "PRESIDENT MADISON" ... Jan. 17th.

TO EUROPE—£120-£112-£110

First Class on the Pacific. First Class on American or Canadian Railways. First Class and Monoclass and Second Class on the Atlantic. Choice of Trans-Continental Railways. Any Line on the Atlantic. Through Accommodations and Booking arranged.

TO MANILA

"PRESIDENT MADISON" ... Jan. 8th.

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TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE

FAST NEW AMERICAN STEAMERS TO

SAN FRANCISCO

SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA & HONOLULU

S.S. "PRESIDENT WILSON" ... Sunday, Jan. 13th, at 10 a.m.

Sailing and Fare subject to Change Without Notice.

LOW FARES TO EUROPE

LOCAL EQUIVALENT OF

£120 £112 £110

WITH STOP OVER PRIVILEGES AT PORTS OF CALL AND POINTS IN UNITED STATES.

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VISIT

YOSEMITE
 GRAND CANYON
 FEATHER RIVER
 YELLOW STONE PARK
 NIAGARA FALLS.

HONGKONG-MANILA

S.S. "PRESIDENT WILSON" ... Saturday, Jan. 13th, at 5 p.m.

S.S. "PRESIDENT LINCOLN" ... Wednesday, Jan. 23rd, at 4 p.m.

HONGKONG-CALCUTTA

FREIGHT ONLY

CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.

S.S. "LAKE GITANO" ... Friday, Jan. 4th, 1924, at 5 p.m.

For Full Information regarding Rates, Space, etc., Apply to:—

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1st Floor, Queen's Building, Hongkong.

Cable Address: Tel. Central 141. Canton Agents: "SOLANO" 2322 HOLYOAK MASSEY & CO., LTD.



SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

VICTORIA, SEATTLE & VANCOUVER via Shanghai, Japan ports Through Bills of Lading issued to all Overland common Points in U.S.A. and Canada. Through passage rates to Europe via America: G-4405, G-4420, G-4440.

KAGA MARU ... Tuesday, 5th Jan., at 11 a.m.
 ITO MARU ... Monday, 26th Jan.
 MAREUILLES, LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore, &c.
 HAKONE MARU ... Wednesday, 16th Jan., at 11 a.m.
 SUWA MARU ... Wednesday, 30th Jan.

HAMBURG via LONDON & ROTTERDAM.

LIVERPOOL via MARSEILLES & VALENCIA.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila, &c.

YOSHINO MARU ... Wednesday, 16th Jan., at 11 a.m.

AKI MARU ... Wednesday, 13th Feb.

NEW YORK & BOSTON via PANAMA.

TATSUNO MARU ... Thursday, 10th Jan.

BUENOSAIRES via Singapore, Durban & Cape Town.

KAMAKURA MARU ... End of Jan.

BOMBAY via Singapore and Colombo.

SADO MARU ... Thursday, 10th Jan.

MOJI MARU ... Monday, 26th Jan.

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.

AWA MARU ... Saturday, 5th Jan.

MALACCA MARU ... Sunday, 27th Jan.

NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

AKI MARU ... Sunday, 13th Jan., at 10 a.m.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

MATSUYE MARU ... Sunday, 18th Jan.

WAKASA MARU ... Sunday, 20th Jan.

HAKOYAKI MARU ... Wednesday, 23rd Jan.

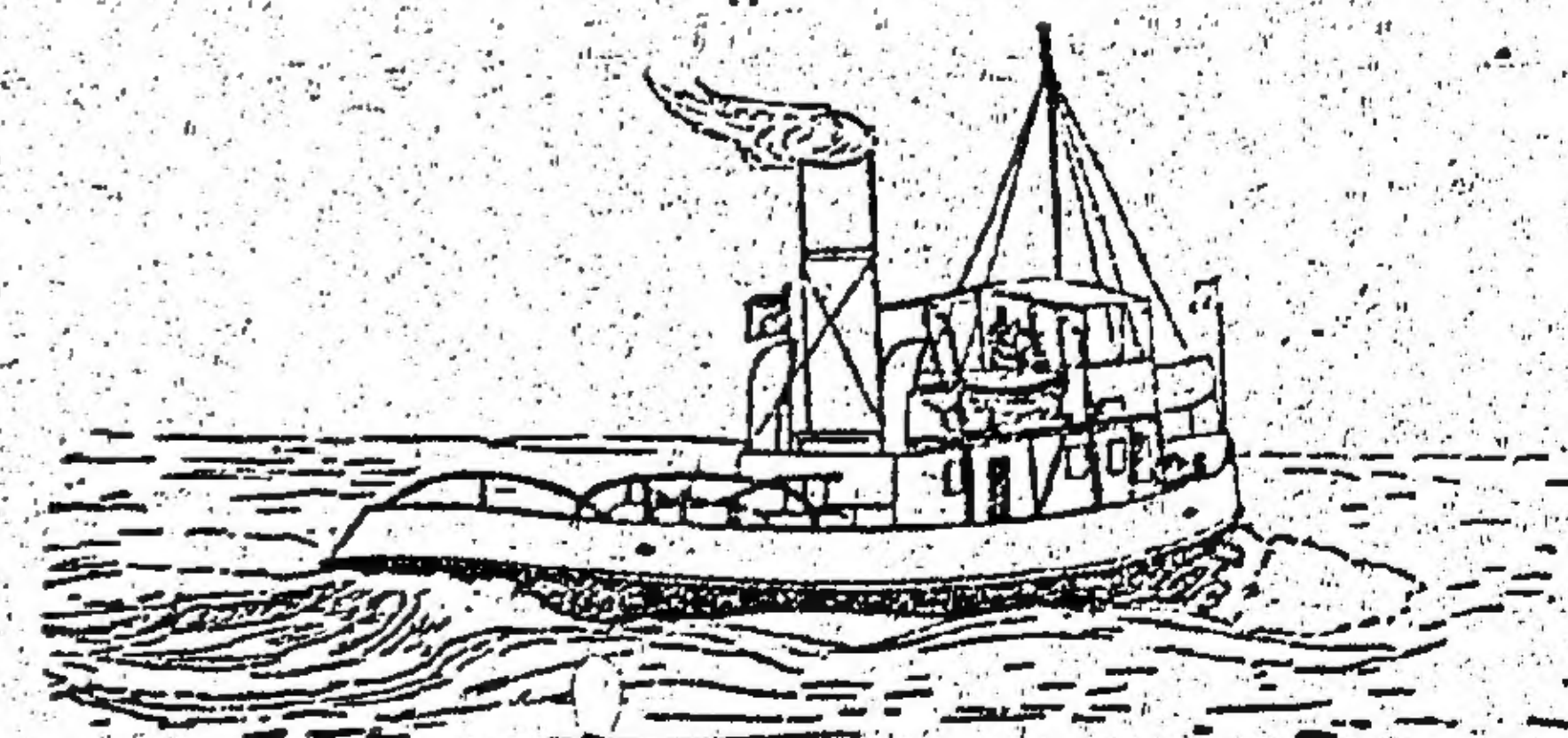
For further information apply to:— NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

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"SANDON HALL" 13th January Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"CITY OF CAMBRIDGE" 28th January Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg

PASSENGER SERVICE.

"CITY OF CANTERBURY" 10th January Shanghai & Kobe.
"CITY OF CANTERBURY" 21st February Marseilles, London, etc.
"CITY OF YORK" 30th March Do.
"CITY OF CAIRO" 18th April Do.

FARES TO LONDON.

1st Class "A" £92 "B" £84 2nd Class "A" £69 "B" £56.
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"PELEUS" via Suez Canal 15th Jan.
"LANGRON HALL" via Suez Canal 25th Jan.
"HYSON" via Suez Canal 5th Feb.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owners' option.
Subject to change without notice.

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SERVICES CONTRACTUELS

| Mail Steamers. | Next Sailings from Marseilles. | Fr. Arr. at Hongkong and Sailing for Shanghai and Japan. | Probable Sailing from Hongkong for Marseilles. |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| PAUL LECAT | 14th Dec. | 17th Jan. | 7th Jan. 1924. |
| ANDRE LEBON | 25th Dec. | 31st Jan. | 21st Jan. |
| AMBOISE | | | 4th Feb. |
| CORDILLERE | | | 18th Feb. |
| ANGERS | | | 3rd Mar. |

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY TO MARSEILLES.

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A Class (1st Class) £85.00. B Class (1st Class) £80.00. C Class (1st Class) £75.00.
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Through Tickets to London and Leading Towns of Europe.

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"MEIKAM" loading for MANILA, MARSEILLES, HAVRE, ANTWERP, & DUNKIRK, about 11th January, 1924.

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REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for First-Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in staterooms, Saloons and Excellent cuisine.

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SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW

AND RETURN

(Occupying 9 or 10 Days)

HONGKONG — Capt. F. J. Gill — Tuesday, 8th Jan., at 1 p.m.

Arrive, and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier)

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DOUGLAS LARRAIK & CO.,
General Manager.

JAPAN COAL

AND
GENERAL IMPORTS & EXPORTS
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THE NISSAN MARINE & FIRE INSURANCE CO.

MITSUBISHI SHoji KAISHA

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HEAD OFFICE—TOKIO.

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STRAITS, JAVA, SUMATRA, INDIA, PERSIAN GULF, WEST INDIES,
MAURITIUS, EAST & SOUTH AFRICA, AUSTRALIA, INCLUDING
NEW ZEALAND & QUEENSLAND PORTS, AND SEA,
LAFY, EGYPT, ETC.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL FORTNIGHTLY
DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.
(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

| S.S. | Tonnage | From Hongkong (about) | Destinations |
|------------|---------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| "KHIVA" | 9,097 | 19th Jan. Noon | Marseilles, London & Antwerp. |
| "SICILIA" | 8,813 | 19th Jan. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "MAEDONIA" | 11,098 | 26th Jan. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "KASHGAR" | 8,840 | 26th Jan. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "SOUHAN" | 6,696 | 13th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "MOIRA" | 10,911 | 20th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "KARMA" | 9,068 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "NADIRA" | 15,993 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "SICILIA" | 8,813 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "KHIVA" | 9,097 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "SOUHAN" | 6,696 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "KASHGAR" | 8,840 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |
| "KHIVA" | 9,097 | 27th Feb. | Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay. |

BRITISH INDIA - APCAR SAILINGS

| | | | |
|-----------|-------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| "TORILLA" | 5,205 | 22nd Jan. | Singapore, Penang & Calcutta. |
| "JAPAN" | 6,092 | 2nd Feb. | do. |

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|-----------------|--|
| "ARAFURA" | 6,000 | 5th Jan. 4 p.m. | (Manila, Sandakan, Thursday, Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne) |
| "ST. ALBANS" | 4,500 | 2nd Feb. | do. |
| "EASTERN" | 4,000 | 27th Feb. | do. |

Frequent connections from Australia with the following—
The Union B.S. Co.'s Steamers to the United Kingdom via New Zealand, Vancouver, The P. & O. Royal Mail Steamers to London via Suez Canal. (San Francisco, etc.)
The P. & O. Branch Service of Steamers to London via the Cape.
The New Zealand Shipping Co.'s Steamers for Southampton and London via Patagonia Channel.

SAILING TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

| | | | |
|--------------|--------|---------------|------------------------------|
| "SICILIA" | 8,813 | 6th Jan. D.L. | Shanghai. |
| "JAPAN" | 6,092 | 6th Jan. | Amoy, Shanghai, Moji & Kobe. |
| "ST. ALBANS" | 4,500 | 6th Jan. | Moji & Kobe. |
| "MOIRA" | 10,911 | 12th Jan. | Shanghai, Moji & Kobe. |
| "TAIMA" | 8,000 | 18th Jan. | Moji & Kobe. |
| "KARMA" | 9,068 | 26th Jan. | Shanghai, Moji & Kobe. |
| "SOUHAN" | 6,696 | 1st Feb. | Shanghai. |
| "EASTERN" | 4,000 | 2nd Feb. | Moji & Kobe. |
| "NADIRA" | 15,993 | 9th Feb. | Shanghai, Moji & Kobe. |
| "KHIVA" | 9,097 | 27th Feb. | do. |
| "SICILIA" | 8,813 | 27th Feb. | do. |
| "ARAFURA" | 6,000 | 27th Feb. | Moji & Kobe. |
| "SICILIA" | 8,813 | 27th Feb. | Shanghai. |
| "KASHGAR" | 8,840 | 27th Feb. | Shanghai, Moji & Kobe. |
| "ST. ALBANS" | 4,500 | 4th Apr. | Moji & Kobe. |
| "SOUHAN" | 6,696 | 8th Apr. | Shanghai. |
| "KHIVA" | 9,097 | 18th Apr. | Shanghai, Moji & Kobe. |
| "DELTA" | 8,000 | 2nd May. | do. |

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

* Passengers for Hongkong must defray their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while awaiting the ship on carrying steamer.
First Saloon Passengers may travel by B.S.N. Company's Steamers between Singapore and Calcutta or Singapore and Madras in line of the section of their P. & O. Tickets Singapore to Calcutta.

All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge.

Parcels measuring not more than 24 ft. x 3 ft. x 1 ft. will be received at the Company's Office up to Noon on the day previous to sailing.

For Further Information, Passage Fares, Freight Handbooks, etc., apply to—

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

22, Des Voeux Road Central, HONGKONG. Agents.

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED

NEW YORK BERTH

For NEW YORK & BOSTON via SUEZ

S.S. "KENDAL CASTLE" sailing on or about 23th Jan.

LLOYD TRIESTINO.

TAKING CARGO FOR GENOA, NAPLES, VENICE, TRIESTE AND ALL ITALIAN PORTS, ALSO CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR LEVANT, BLACK SEA & DANUBE PORTS.

FIUME having been re-opened for T.M.C. cargo is also accepted for this port on through bills of lading.

VESSAYS HAVE ACCOMMODATION FOR BALOON PASSENGERS. REDUCED FARE FROM HONGKONG TO ITALIAN PORTS £26.

FOR SHANGHAI YOKOHAMA & KOBE.

"PERSIA" sailing on or about 7th Jan.
"ANNA" sailing on or about 12th Jan.
"ROSANDRA" sailing on or about 3rd Feb.

FOR BRINDISI, VENICE & TRIESTE via SINGAPORE, PENANG & COLOMBO.

"DUCHESSE D'AOSTA" sailing on or about 7th Jan.
"PERSIA" sailing on or about Early Feb.

* This steamer has been specially chartered to facilitate the forwarding of cargo intended for the reconstruction of the devastated areas in Japan.

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS.

From CALCUTTA and COLOMBO to SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

"UMVOLOSI" sailing on or about 7th Feb.
Regular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports. Through Bills of Lading issued from Hongkong.

For Freight or Passage on any of the above Lines apply to—

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED.

Telephone Central 1020.

Agents.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATIONS.

| Ports | Steamer | Date of Departure |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| SHANGHAI - PUKOW | "SOOCHOW" | On 5th Jan. D.L. |
| SHANGHAI - PUKOW | "SUYANG" | On 6th Jan. D.L. |
| SWATOW & SHANGHAI | "LIANGCHOW" | On 8th Jan. 10 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "CHANGCHOW" | On 8th Jan. Noon. |
| AMOY & SHANGHAI | "YINGCHOW" | On 8th Jan. D.L. |
| SWATOW & BANGKOK | "KALGAN" | On 8th Jan. Noon. |
| SHANGHAI | "NANNING" | On 8th Jan. 4 p.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "SEORUYEN" | On 9th Jan. D.L. |
| SHANGHAI | "TAMING" | On 9th Jan. 4 p.m. |
| SHANGHAI | "NANCHANG" | On 9th Jan. 4 p.m. |
| SHANGHAI & PUKOW | "YUNNAN" | On 10th Jan. 10 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO | "KANCHOW" | On 11th Jan. D.L. |
| SHANGHAI & BANGKOK | "SINKIANG" | On 12th Jan. D.L. |
| AMOY & SHANGHAI | "CHENAN" | On 13th Jan. 10 a.m. |
| | "NEWCHWANG" | On 18th Jan. D.L. |

SHANGHAI LINE—Excellent Saloon accommodation available, with Electric Fans fitted. Regular service four times weekly between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai (leaving Hongkong: Sundays (via Swatow) and Tuesdays (via Amoy) Thursdays (via Swatow) and Saturdays (direct extending to Tientsin). Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and North China ports. Passengers for Shanghai do not require to tranship at Wootung.

BANGKOK LINE—Regular weekly service leaving Hongkong Tuesdays to and from Bangkok via Swatow maintained by new "K" class steamers, attractively fitted for passengers, with double and single-berth cabins.

For Freight or Passage apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 25.
(JOHN SWIRE & SONS, LTD.)
Agents.

CARGO & PASSAGE CAN BE ISSUED AT THE OFFICE OF BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE (John Swire & Sons, Ltd.)

AUSTRALIAN ORIENTAL LINE

HONGKONG TO PHILIPPINES AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATIONS

| Steamer | At Hongkong from Australia | Leave Hongkong for Kobe. |
|---------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| "KUT" | 5th January, a.m. | 8th January, 4 p.m. |

This Steamer is fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice Fresh Provisions, etc., and has superior accommodation Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State-Rooms. A duly qualified Doctor is carried. Reduced Fares, Cargo booked through to all Australian, New Zealand & Tasmanian Ports.

For freight and passage apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
(JOHN SWIRE & SONS, LTD.) Agents.
Telephone Central No. 25.

PRINCE LINE FAR EAST SERVICE

Regular Sailings to Boston and/or New York by fast freight steamers.

For BOSTON

and
NEW YORK

S.S. "GARLIC PRINCE" 5th Jan. 1924
S.S. "GOTHIC PRINCE" 28th Jan.

For freight and full particulars apply to—

FURNESS (FAR EAST) LIMITED

Telephone: Central 314
Telegrams (Faraprine)
(Incorporated in Great Britain)
St. George's Building.

O. S. K.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION
LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.

ALMA MARU Sunday, 10th Feb.
RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES—via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban and Capetown.

"PAOMA MARU" Tuesday, 8th Jan.
BOMBAY via Singapore and Colombo.

"RYOKAI MARU" Monday, 7th Jan.
"HIMALAYA MARU" Sunday, 20th Jan.

SAIGON, BANGKOK & SINGAPORE "KISHU MARU" Friday, 1st Feb.

COLOMBO via Singapore and Rangoon "MALAY MARU" Wednesday, 16th Jan.

VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER via Shanghai and Japan Ports.

"MANILA MARU" Saturday, 10th Jan.
NEW YORK via Japan Ports, San Francisco and Panama.

"HAYRE MARU" Middle of Dec. from Shanghai.
"HAMBURG MARU" Middle of Jan.

JAPAN PORTS—Moji, Kobe, Osaka, Yokohama & Nagoya.
"MANA MARU" Thursday, 10th Jan.

KEELUNG, SWATOW & AMOY. "AMAKURA MARU" Sunday, 6th Jan. 10 a.m.

"KAIJO MARU" Sunday, 13th Jan. 10 a.m.

TAKAO via SWATOW & AMOY. "BOHAI MARU" Thursday, 17th Jan. 8 a.m.

TAKAO & KEELUNG. "KISHU MARU" Wednesday, 16th Jan.

For further particulars please apply to—

OSAKA SHOKEN KAISHA

2, SHIMA, Manager.

Telephone Nos. 4088, 4069, 4060.

STRUTHERS & BARRY

OPERATING U.S. GOVERNMENT SHIPS.

EXPRESS FREIGHT SERVICE.

FOR LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO

FROM HONGKONG BY DIRECT ROUTE

U.S.S. "West Chopaka" Due Hongkong 18th Jan.

U.S.S. "West Farallon" Due Hongkong 17th Jan.

U.S.S. "West Carmona" Due Hongkong 27th Jan.

CARGO ACCEPTED FOR TRANSHIPMENT AT SAN FRANCISCO TO WEEKLY SAILINGS FOR ATLANTIC SEABOARD PORTS. THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED TO U.S. AND CANADIAN OVERLAND POINTS.

FOR SAIGON & SINGAPORE.

U.S.S. "West Montop" Due Hongkong 28th Jan.

U.S.S. "West Carmona" Due Hongkong 27th Jan.

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED TO ALL PORTS NOT SERVED.

FOR MANILA, CEBU, ILOILO AND P. I. PORTS.

U.S.S. "West Carmona" Due Hongkong 10th Jan.

U.S.S. "West Carmona" Leave Hongkong 11th Jan.

For Full Information Apply to
STRUTHERS & BARRY.

L. EVERETT, General Agent for
JAPAN-CHINA-PHILIPPINES
INDO-CHINA-STRAITS & JAVA

1st Floor, Queen's Building,
Phone Central No. 2008.
A. E. FRANKIE,
Acting Res. Agent.

